

# THE LANCET

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2659.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1878.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

**GOVERNMENT GRANT OF 1,000L.—A MEETING** OF THE GOVERNMENT GRANT COMMITTEE will be held in FEBRUARY, 1879. It is requested that applications to be considered at that Meeting be forwarded to the SECRETARIES of the Royal Society, Burlington House, before the 31st of December, 1878.

**GOVERNMENT FUND OF 4,000L. for the PROMOTION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.—A MEETING** OF THE GOVERNMENT FUND COMMITTEE will be held in FEBRUARY, 1879. It is requested that applications to be considered at that Meeting be forwarded to the SECRETARIES of the Royal Society, Burlington House, before the 31st of December, 1878.

**PRINTERS' PENSION, ALMSHOUSE, and ORPHAN ASYLUM CORPORATION.—RESULT OF ELECTION** of Orphan Children, This Day. C. W. H. WYMAN, Esq., presiding.

	Votes		Votes
1. Beatrice S. Minors	53	4. Charles H. Sutton	38
2. Emily F. Pursey	109	5. Miss S. Usher (Elected)	71
3. Sarah E. Robinson (Elected)	502	6. James F. Wheeler (Elected)	101

J. S. HODSON, Secretary.  
Gray's Inn Chambers, 30, High Holborn, October 7th, 1878.

**THE HOLBEIN SOCIETY.** President—SIDNEY COLVIN, Esq., Slade Professor of Art, Cambridge.

**CAXTON'S GOLDEN LEGEND.** A Facsimile Reproduction of a portion (about 70 pages, containing numerous Woodcuts) of the copy in the Manchester Free Library, the Plates from the Dutch Edition of 1569, and an Introduction by Alfred Arpland, Esq.  
Price to subscribers, 12. 1s.; to non-subscribers, 12. 11s. 6d. Only a few copies are on sale.  
Note.—By permission of the Trustees of the British Museum, the Council are pleased to announce that the next issue of the Society will be a Facsimile Reproduction of the Book Book Ars Morandi, printed circa 1450.

**CABINET PICTURES IN OIL.—Dudley Gallery,** Reception Hall, Piccadilly.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS. The day for RECEIVING PICTURES for the SALE of the Twelfth Annual Exhibition will be MONDAY, the 4th of NOVEMBER NEXT, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 10 P.M.  
Regulations can be had on application to the SECRETARY, at the Gallery.

**CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE GALLERY.** OPEN all the Year Round, for the SALE of BRITISH and FOREIGN PICTURES. Important NEW WORKS have just been added. The Sales last year amounted to 9,000L.—For particulars apply to Mr. C. W. WASS, Superintendent of the Gallery.

**MISS GLYN, the Tragedian and Shakespearean** KEO, has the honour to announce that she teaches READING and ELUCIDATION, and Prepares Pupils for the STAGE, at her residence, 13, Mount-Street, Grosvenor-square, W.

**TEN LECTURES ON ROMAN HISTORY** will be given by J. B. SEELEY, Esq., M.A., Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, in ST. MARK'S SCHOOL, VIOLET HILL, HAMPTON-TERACE, St. John's Wood, on SATURDAY Afternoon, at half past Three o'clock, commencing on October 19th.—Syllabus on application to Miss HART, 35, Hamilton-terrace, N.W.

**UNIVERSITY LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.—**C. M. RIDGE, December, 1878; OXFORD, May, 1879.—Miss E. H. BIKLEY will give Three Lectures on Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar," at the Hampden Gurney School, Hampden Gurney-street, West Berkeley-street, W., on SATURDAY, November 9, 16, and 23, commencing at 11.30 A.M.—Ticket for the Three Lectures, 1s. School Tickets, to admit Ten, 30s.; to be had of Mr. BAINE, Bookseller, 73, Fairfax-road, Hampstead, N.W.; or at the Schoolroom after the first Lecture.

**ITALIAN CORRESPONDENT.—A Cambridge** Graduate, who leaves on the 30th for Italy, where he will permanently reside, offers his services as Correspondent. Knows Italy and Italian.—41, Bernard-street, Russell-square.

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**THE COMPETITIVE MILITARY EX-** AMINATION OF MILITIA SUBALTERN.—Major F. J. A. DUNN is prepared to receive FOUR OFFICERS to READ for the MARCH EXAMINATION.—Fairfield, Newton Abbot, South Devon.

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(1) Classics, French, &c.—M. Laing, M.A., Trin. Coll., Camb.  
(2) Mathematics, &c.—T. W. Bagshaw, B.A., St. John's Coll., Camb.  
(3) Chemistry.—T. Elford, F.R.S.  
Fee for the whole Course, 10L. 10s. For (1) or (2), 5L. 5s.; (3), 5L. 5s. The Class is open to persons not attached to the Medical School as well as to Students.

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Zoology and Comparative Anatomy.—Norman Moore, M.D., St. Catherine's Coll., Camb., Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy to the Hospital.  
Chemistry.—J. Armstrong, Ph.D. F.R.S., Demonstrator of Chemistry to the Hospital.  
Physics.—C. R. Smith, B.A., Magdalene Coll., Camb., Demonstrator of Natural Philosophy to the Hospital.  
Fee (including Chemicals) to the Students of the Hospital, 8L. 8s.; to others, 10L. 10s.  
For particulars application may be made, personally or by letter, to the Warden of the College, at his House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—LECTURES** to LADIES.—THE SESSION will OPEN on MONDAY, October 14th, at 10 A.M. Observatory-avenue, Kensington, W. THE INAUGURAL LECTURE will be delivered on that day, at 11 A.M., at the Vestry Hall, Kensington, by the Rev. Canon BARRY, D.D. Admission free. For all information apply to the Secretary, Miss SCAMPTON, 20, Belair Park-garden, N.W.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC (M.B.) EXAMINATION.**—Instruction is given in all the Subjects of the above Examination at GUY'S HOSPITAL during both Winter and Summer Sessions. The Class is not confined to Students of the Hospital.—For further particulars apply to the DEAN GUY'S Hospital, Southwark, S.E.

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The Head Master must be a Graduate of some University in the United Kingdom; he will not be disqualified by reason of his not being, or not intending to be, in Holy Orders, and will hold his Office until the end of the Session of the New School.  
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Fee not to exceed 6d. Present number of Boys in the School is 85.  
The Candidates who are required to attend on the day of election will receive due notice from the Clerk.

Further information may be obtained on application to the undersigned (the Clerk to the Governing Body, to whom applications, with 16 copies of testimonials, must be sent, on or before THURSDAY, the 21st inst., and from whom a copy of the Scheme may be obtained. It is requested that no personal application be made to any Governor.  
H. F. V. FALKNER, Clerk to the Governing Body.  
Louth, October 4th, 1878.

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The Salary of the Professor will be 1,000L. per annum, without Fees or Residence, and he must engage actively in the work of Teaching, as well as of Lecturing and Examining, and devote himself exclusively to the duties of his Professorship.

Candidates must be Laymen, Graduates of Universities of the United Kingdom, and of sound constitution and in good health.

The Professor must arrive in Adelaide not later than the middle of February next, and the salary will be paid from the 1st day of January, 1879. The first Quarter's Salary will, if required, be paid by the undersigned in advance on embarkation. Passage-Money will not be paid.

The Professor will be elected by a Board of Electors in London, who will require a personal interview with such of the Candidates as they shall designate.  
Applications must be forwarded not later than the 1st day of NOVEMBER next, to the undersigned, from whom all further necessary information may be obtained.  
By authority of the Council of the University of Adelaide.  
ARTHUR ELIOT, Agent-General for South Australia.  
8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W., 8th October, 1878.

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**THE EDINBURGH REVIEW**, No. 304, OCTOBER, will be published on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

## Contents.

- I. THE COPYRIGHT COMMISSION.
- II. LOW'S HISTORY OF THE INDIAN NAVY.
- III. GARDINER'S GOVERNMENT OF CHARLES I.
- IV. RECENT EXPLORATIONS IN PALESTINE.
- V. WHO WROTE THE ANNALS OF TACITUS?
- VI. THE JESUIT MARTYRS—CAMPTON and WALPOLE.
- VII. SIR HENRY TAYLOR'S COLLECTED WORKS.
- VIII. CORRESPONDENCE OF M. DE BALZAC.
- IX. ENGLAND IN THE LEVANT.

London: Longmans &amp; Co. Edinburgh: A. &amp; C. Black.

**THE QUARTERLY REVIEW**, No. 292, will be published on WEDNESDAY, the 16th October.

## Contents.

- I. JOHN DRYDEN.
- II. RISE OF THE MODERN BRITISH EMPIRE.
- III. ELEPHANT CATCHING.
- IV. PETERARCH.
- V. ANCIENT CYPRUS.
- VI. M. THIERS: his LIFE and CHARACTER.
- VII. THE LANCASHIRE COTTON STRIKE.
- VIII. IS THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROTESTANT?
- IX. THE REVIVAL OF TURKEY.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

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3. JOUBERT.
4. BUTTER and CREAM.
5. BOSNIA, HERZEGOVINA, and AUSTRIA.
6. TENT WORK IN PALESTINE.
7. Mr. HUGHES on the ESTABLISHMENT.
8. THE THREE TREATIES.
9. CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

London: Hodder &amp; Stoughton, 27, Paternoster-row.

On the 15th inst. will be ready, price 2s. 6d.

**THE NEW QUARTERLY MAGAZINE**, for OCTOBER.

## Contents.

- I. THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WALT WHITMAN. By R. L. Stevenson.
- II. THE NEW BULGARIA. By F. D. Millet, late War Correspondent of the Daily News.
- III. MARTIN LUTHER. By H. Hayman, D.D.
- IV. OUR PROFESSOR: a Story. By E. Lynn Linton.
- V. THEODORE DE BANVILLE. By Andrew Lang.
- VI. THE CAUCASUS SYSTEM and the LIBERAL PARTY. By George Howell.
- VII. MUSICAL DICTIONARIES. By H. Sutherland Edwards.
- VIII. THE VERNACULAR PRESS and the AFGHAN CRISIS. By an Indian Editor.
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1878.

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The number of names which appear at the headings of chapters and in the index is very considerable. We counted 282 in the latter, the great majority of these being names of persons of literary standing or connexion who were individually known to the Clarks. Of course, amid such a multitude, there is a large number who are barely more than mentioned, and of whom the volume supplies no particulars worth taking into account. The first nine chapters, occupying 119 pages, give some personal details concerning the authors (Charles Cowden Clarke being, as many of our readers will be aware, the son of a schoolmaster at Enfield, in whose academy Keats was educated, and Mary Victoria Clarke being the daughter of Vincent and Mary Sabilla Novello), and they skim lightly enough, but with many agreeable touches and points worth remembering, over a miscellany of the writers' experiences and acquaintanceships. The re-

maining sections, filling 222 pages, are more detailed. They consist of recollections of Keats, Charles and Mary Lamb, Leigh Hunt, Douglas Jerrold, and Dickens, with a considerable number of letters from all these friends excepting only Keats. A portion of the book has already appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, beginning with the Recollections of Keats, which Mrs. Clarke rightly terms the best of all. In the earlier chapters will be found something about Edmund Kean, Godwin, Shelley and his wife, Coleridge, Procter, Horace Smith, Hazlitt, Thalberg, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Macready, Cobden, Hood, Emerson, Etty, Mrs. Somerville, and, as we have said, a host of others.

Of a book published under these conditions, and written in this spirit, not much need be said by way of detailed criticism. It is worth reading by all persons interested in our recent literature, especially in Keats, Lamb, and Hunt, and is worth preserving too. The writing is bright-humoured and facile, though there are some mannerisms or affectations (caught probably in the school of Lamb and Hunt), such as "the applause thus for the first time publicly and face to facedly showered upon it," or the tribute (p. 109) to two critical friends, Thomas Pickering and Thomas Latimer; and the friendly good feeling is so extreme that the only wonder is that the life of one married couple should have brought them acquainted with so many paragons of all the talents under one brain pan and all the virtues under heaven. In the estimate of Keats, warmly affectionate as it is, there appears indeed to be nothing overloaded or one-sided; but Jerrold figures as almost the acme of human excellence, until we find him overtopped by Lamb, and him by Hunt, and him (if that be possible) by Dickens. Mrs. Shelley again (who, we are informed, never wore widow's weeds) was "distinguished for personal beauty as well as for literary eminence" in a degree only equalled by Mrs. Norton and Lady Blessington.

Of Shelley we learn that he used to attend the musical parties at Vincent Novello's; that he imagined until undeceived that Hunt wrote the whole of the *Examiner*, including the money-market and the price of coals; that he argued for republicanism against Hunt and Walter Coulson, the editor of the *Globe*; that he walked with "a lounging or waving manner," and was seen "scampering and bounding over the gorse-bushes on Hampstead Heath late one night, now close upon us and now shouting from the height like a wild schoolboy"; also (a point we do not recollect seeing noted elsewhere) that his residence in Great Marlow was named Albion House. An evening journal, in announcing his death, remarked, "He will now know whether there is a hell or not."

The Recollections of Keats form a truly interesting monograph, and a precious one, considering how few are the sources of original information concerning this great poet. The lively-stable of his maternal grandfather, Mr. Jennings, was named the Swan and Hoop, Moorfields Pavement. He was a very diligent schoolboy, especially in voluntary exercises, for which he took the first prize in two or three successive half-years, at work before the school began at seven in the morning, and in recreation time as well. One of these self-

imposed tasks was the translation of a considerable portion of the 'Æneid' (the furthest extent of his Latin learning), which he completed during his apprenticeship to a surgeon. When hardly fourteen years of age he was so far critical as to observe "that there was feebleness in the structure" of this epic. His first published poem was the sonnet, "O solitude, if I must with thee dwell," which appeared in the *Examiner*, perhaps in 1816. Mr. Clarke corrects the statement that Keats had blue eyes and auburn hair; the colours should stand, "light hazel and lightish brown." We cannot help thinking that the poet's "stature could have been very little more than five feet," for this is almost dwarfish undersize for a man. Rembrandt's portrait of Wouvermans in the Dulwich Gallery is affirmed to be a good deal like Keats.

The five authors from whom letters are printed in this volume were all, if we except Miss Lamb, somewhat effusive letter-writers, a character which harmonizes with the tone of the book itself, thus tending to create a certain impression of monotony, and of rather pre-pense and resolute cordiality. Many of the letters, however, are in all ways worthy of the reputation of the men, and of hearty cherishing by their admirers. Those of Dickens relate principally to his amateur-theatrical tours, in which Mrs. Clarke bore a part, enacting Dame Quickly and another character. Mrs. Clarke's knowledge of Dickens was not restricted to this tour, but her reminiscences for the most part hover round it, and this with exuberant demonstrations of delight which may somewhat pall upon a reader of the present day, rightly apt to regard this episode in Dickens's career as a rather subsidiary matter. A fac-simile is given of a letter addressed by the great humourist to Mrs. Clarke in 1848, signed with the names of eight of his stage characters, with a stage nickname, and with his own proper appellation as well. The handwriting of the various signatures is ingeniously diversified.

Our authors strongly insist that the charges of intemperance which have been brought against Lamb and Jerrold are untrue. We gladly record their testimony, and leave it to others who may be able to speak from personal knowledge not less ample than that of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke, to say whether they can acquiesce in this vindication.

As a good specimen of the style may be sub-joined a passage describing Jerrold's manner as a master of witticism:—

"Jerrold would perceive the germ of a retort before you had well begun to form your sentence, and would bring it forth in full blossom the instant you had done speaking. He had a way of looking straight in the face of one to whom he dealt a repartee, and with an expression of eye that seemed to ask appreciation of the point of the thing he was going to say, thus depriving it of personality or ill-nature. It was as if he called upon its object to enjoy it with him, rather than to resent its sharpness. There was a peculiar compression with a sudden curve or lift up of the lip that showed his own sense of the fun of the thing he was uttering, while his glance met his interlocutor's with a firm unflinching roguery and an unflinching drollery of tone that had none of the sidelong furtive look and irritating tone of usual utterers of mere rough retorts. When an acquaintance came up to him and said, 'Why, Jerrold, I hear you said my nose was like the ace of clubs,' Jerrold returned, 'No,

I didn't; but, now I look at it, I see it is very like.' The question of the actual resemblance was far less present to his mind than the neatness of his own turn upon the complainant. So with a repartee which he repeated to us himself as having made on a particular occasion, evidently relishing the comic audacity, and without intending a spark of insolence. When the publisher of *Bentley's Miscellany* said to Jerrold, 'I had some doubts about the name I should give the magazine; I thought at one time of calling it *The Wits' Miscellany*.' 'Well,' was the rejoinder, 'but you needn't have gone to the other extremity.' Knowing Jerrold, we feel that, had the speaker been the most brilliant genius that ever lived, the retort would have been the same, the patness having once entered his brain. He would drop his witticisms like strewed flowers as he went on talking, lavishly, as one who possessed countless store; yet always with that glance of enjoyment in them himself, and of challenging your sympathetic relish for them in return, which acknowledges the truth of the Shakespearean axiom, 'A jest's prosperity lies in the ear of him that hears it.' He illustrated his conversation, as it were, by these wit-blossoms cast in by the way. Speaking of a savage, biting critic, Jerrold said, 'Oh, yes, he'll review the book as an east wind reviews an apple-tree.' Of an actress who thought inordinately well of herself he said, 'She's a perfect whitlow of vanity'; and of a young writer who brought out his first raw specimen of authorship Jerrold said, 'He is like a man taking down his shop shutters before he has any goods to sell.'

We conclude with two other extracts. The first refers to Keats in his relation to the surgical profession:—

"In one of our conversations, about this period, I alluded to his position at St. Thomas's Hospital, coasting and reconnoitring as it were, for the purpose of discovering what progress he was making in his profession; which I had taken for granted had been his own selection, and not one chosen for him. The total absorption, therefore, of every other mood of his mind than that of imaginative composition, which had now evidently encompassed him, induced me, from a kind motive, to inquire what was his bias of action for the future; and with that transparent candour which formed the mainspring of his rule of conduct, he at once made no secret of his inability to sympathize with the science of anatomy, as a main pursuit in life; for one of the expressions that he used, in describing his unfitness for its mastery, was perfectly characteristic. He said, in illustration of his argument, 'The other day, for instance, during the lecture, there came a sunbeam into the room, and with it a whole troop of creatures floating in the ray; and I was off with them to Oberon and fairyland.' And yet, with all his self-styled unfitness for the pursuit, I was afterwards informed that at his subsequent examination he displayed an amount of acquirement which surprised his fellow-students, who had scarcely any other association with him than that of a cheerful, crotchety rhymester. He once talked with me, upon my complaining of stomachic derangement, with a remarkable decision of opinion, describing the functions and actions of the organ with the clearness and, as I presume, technical precision of an adult practitioner; casually illustrating the comment, in his characteristic way, with poetical imagery: the stomach, he said, being like a brood of callow nestlings (opening his capacious mouth) yearning and gaping for sustenance; and, indeed, he merely exemplified what should be, if possible, the 'stock in trade' of every poet, viz., to know all that is to be known, 'in the heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth.'

The second is the letter in which Leigh Hunt introduced the widowed Mary Shelley to Mr. Vincent Novello and his family:—

"My dear Novello, — Mary Wollstonecraft's daughter brings you this letter. I know you

would receive her with all your kindness and respect for that designation alone; but there are a hundred other reasons why you will do so, including her own extraordinary talents (which, at the same time, no woman can be less obtrusive with), the pleasure you will find in her society, and last not least, her love of music and regard for a certain professor of ditto—but I have spoken of this introduction already. I do not send you a long letter, for reasons given in the same place; but I trust it will be as good as a long letter in its returns to me, because it sets you the example of writing a short one when you cannot do more. How I envy Mary Shelley the power of taking you all by the hands and joining your kind-hearted circle! But I am there very often myself, I assure you; invisible, it is true, and behind the curtain: but it is possible, you know, to be behind a curtain and yet be very intensely present besides. But do not let any one consider Mary S. in the light of a Blue, of which she has a great horror, but as an unaffected person, with her faults and good qualities like the rest of us; the former extremely corrected by all she has seen and endured, the latter inclining her, like a wise and kind being, to receive all the consolation which the good and the kind can give her. She will be grave with your gravities and laugh as much as you please with your merriments. For the rest, she is as quiet as a mouse, and will drink in as much Mozart and Paesello as you choose to afford her, with an enjoyment that you might take for a Quaker's, unless you could contrive some day to put her into a state of pain, when she will immediately grow as eloquent and say as many fine pleasurable things as she can discourse in a novel. God bless you, dear Novello. From Florence I shall send you some music, especially what you wanted in Rome. From this place I can send you nothing except a ring of my hair, which you must wear for the sake of your affectionate friend,

L. H."

*A Bibliographical Description of the Editions of the New Testament, Tyndale's Version, in English; with Numerous Readings, Comparisons of Texts, and Historical Notices; the Notes in full from the Edition of Nov. 1534. An Account of Two Octavo Editions of the New Testament of the Bishops' Version, without Numbers to the Verses. By Francis Fry, F.S.A. (Sotheran & Co.)*

It is now sixteen years since Mr. Fry published his wonderfully accurate reproduction in fac-simile of Tyndale's first complete English Testament, from the perfect and unique copy preserved in the Baptist College at Bristol. Although previously known as an ardent collector of early English Bibles and Testaments, it was in the introduction to this work that Mr. Fry first gave evidence that he was not merely a collector, but a true bibliographer; and he did singular service in proving incontestably what was not before known, that the first complete English Testament was printed at Worms by Peter Schoeffer, second son of Peter Schoeffer, of Mentz, who was the partner and son-in-law of Fust. This being established, it appears to be a coincidence worthy of notice that the forerunner of the most widely-circulated book in the world—the English Bible, should have been issued from the press of the son and grandson of the first promoters of printing. Gutenberg was, of course, the inventor of printing, but it was the money of Fust that enabled him to produce the great Mentz Bible in Latin; it was Peter Schoeffer who brought the art to perfection; and it was his son who, having turned Lutheran and settled at Worms, at the instance of Tyndale, when chased away from Cologne

by the machinations of Cochlæus, printed the first English Testament.

Since the publication of this fac-simile of Tyndale, Mr. Fry has contributed substantially to the bibliography of the English Bible, especially by his accurate descriptions of the great Bible of 1539, of the six editions of Cranmer's Bible, 1540 and 1541; and of the authorized version of 1611, 1613, 1617, 1634, 1640; and still further by his accurate description of the Coverdale Bible of 1535. To all librarians and collectors of Early English Bibles these descriptions are simply invaluable.

In the handsome volume before us the writer devotes himself to a description and collation of the various editions of Tyndale's New Testament, forty in number, ranging in date from 1525 to 1566, and of two editions of the bishops' version without numbers to the verses, a laborious task, which none but a true enthusiast would have undertaken, and which indomitable perseverance could alone have brought to a successful issue. Of the work done by him Mr. Fry speaks in the following modest terms:—

"I have for many years been collecting early editions of the Bible and New Testament, and having obtained twenty-seven editions (some imperfect) named after the first translator from the Greek I became desirous to know somewhat of the relationship which subsequent editions of Tyndale's version have to those that preceded them. This wish led me to compile the work now completed. The needful research has afforded me much interest, and has agreeably varied the numerous claims on my time; and if the result of my investigation of these editions affords new information, and is found useful to those who study biblical history, I shall be amply rewarded."

For "Biblical history" he should have said *Biblical bibliography*, or the history of Bible printing, but we let that pass. As an instance of the labour involved in this work, it may be mentioned that the writer takes three editions of Tyndale's version, viz., that of Martin Emperowr, Antwerp, 1534, that with "Fynessed, 1535," and that with the monogram G. H. on the second title, and compares these with each other, as well as with the first edition of Matthew's folio Bible, 1537. This he does, not merely through a single chapter, or through a single book, but through the entire New Testament. The summary of the different readings obtained by this collation amounts to the number of 2,038. Mr. Fry then goes through each of the forty editions of Tyndale above-mentioned, and the two editions of the bishops' version, and describes the peculiarities of each. The majority of these editions he has himself personally examined, and he has obtained careful fac-similes of others, as, for example, those belonging to Mr. Lenox of New York; but he takes care to distinguish between those which he has himself seen and handled, and those of which he has only received information at second hand, however trustworthy. In the course of his work he finds frequent occasion to correct the misstatements of the late Mr. George Offer, who at a time when Biblical bibliography was less studied than it is at present used to pass for a great authority upon the subject. In Christopher Anderson's 'Annals of the English Bible' there are many blunders, but he was the first labourer in the field, and contributed so largely to our knowledge of Tyndale's life and labours that he is

rightly excused for some of his shortcomings. With Offer the case is altogether different, and Mr. Fry very properly exposes his misstatements respecting an edition of Tyndale, which, he says, was revised and edited by Sir John Cheke, and dedicated by him to King Edward the Sixth. In a MS. volume now in the British Museum Mr. Offer writes as follows:—

"Sir J. Cheke, one of the tutors to Edward the Sixth, revised Tyndale's translation, making some trifling alterations. This he published in a very elegant quarto volume by Jugge in 1552, and again in quarto and octavo, dedicated to his royal pupil. After the death of Sir J. Cheke early in the reign of Elizabeth, and probably about the year 1551, it was again altered and published by Jugge with an almanac commencing with that year."

To this Mr. Fry remarks:—

"No evidence is given in support of this statement; no edition in octavo, 1553, is known, and it is directly at variance with the explicit character of the dedication to the king by Richard Jugge, the printer, which is quoted No. 29 (p. 147). The editions having 1561 for the first year in the almanac, which are here described, vary but little from the edition of 1552, and the dedications which still remain in some are the same as that in 1552. In describing No. 27 (p. 140) I have endeavoured to show that although there was as late as 1635 a New Testament called 'Cheke's Translation,' yet it was not one of Tyndale's version."

With respect to almanacs, our own experience, drawn from a knowledge of books of "Hours," that no dependence is to be placed upon them, as to the date of publication of the works to which they are prefixed. Sometimes the dates coincide, but often they are totally different, and the date of publication must be arrived at in some more satisfactory way. There is a difference sometimes of as many as ten years between the date of the almanac and that of the publication. The date to be affixed is only approximative.

As a specimen of the thoroughness with which Mr. Fry has done his work, attention may be drawn to the minute description he has given of the three quarto editions of Tyndale published in 1536. There were altogether seven editions published in that year, one in folio, three in quarto, and three in octavo.

"The three quartos," he says, "are distinguished as the 'Blank-stone,' the 'Mole,' and the 'Engraver's Mark' editions, from the circumstance of the stone beneath the foot of St. Paul in the woodcut (to eleven of his Epistles) being blank, or bearing the figure of a Mole, or the monogram of the Engraver respectively. Each variety was used only in one edition. The editions are distinct, every leaf being different, and are mostly set up with the same matter on each page, so that they may be, and sometimes are, mixed. In proof of this fact, a note written in a copy of the Blank-stone before I bought it may be quoted:—'This leaf, together with all the Epistles to the Romans and 1st of Corinthians, was sold by Mr. Sams to my friend Dr. — to put into a copy of the Mole edition, which I sold him wanting those Epistles. Thus confusion becomes more confounded.' The first titles slightly differ in arrangement. The second titles read the same; that in No. 7 is distinguished by the type being the same as the first titles; that in No. 8 may be known by 'Hebrues' and the error 'Sanyct,' and that in No. 9 by 'Ebrues.'"

The writer goes on to specify numerous other peculiarities of these several editions which may serve as safeguards to librarians and collectors against the purchase of mixed copies.

In his account of the first New Testament of Tyndale, Worms, 1525, Mr. Fry corrects an error into which he had fallen when writing his 'Introduction' to the fac-simile reprint of 1862. In that 'Introduction' he stated,

"on the authority of the late Oade Roberts (a descendant of Thomas Tyndale), that William Tyndale was the son of John and Alice Tyndale, of Hunt's Court. This is now known to be incorrect. John Tyndale married Alice Hunt, of Hunt's Court. A deed of settlement has lately come to light, in which she leaves her estate to her sons, including William. This deed is dated 1542, six years after the death of the translator."

Consequently the latter could not have been her son. Neither has the name of his father been as yet discovered. From a highly interesting paper, 'The Tyndales in Gloucestershire,' drawn up by Mr. James Herbert Cooke, for the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, it appears highly probable that the translator was a member of the Melksham Court family of the Tyndales.

Finally, let us mention that among the numerous plates and fac-similes by which this volume is illustrated, there is one of peculiar interest, namely, that done from a photograph of the letter written by Tyndale when a prisoner in Vilvorde Castle, not long before he attained the honour of martyrdom. This letter, the only one known to be in existence in the hand-writing of the translator, was discovered among the archives of the kingdom of Belgium by the late Rev. R. Demaus, and by him made public in his 'William Tyndale, a Biography,' written for the Religious Tract Society.

*Travels of Dr. and Madame Helfer in Syria, Mesopotamia, Burmah, and other Lands.* Narrated by Pauline Countess Nostitz (formerly Madame Helfer), and rendered into English by Mrs. George Sturge. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

THE above title may not improbably suggest the idea that it was hardly worth while to translate for the benefit of English readers a narrative of journeys performed more than forty years ago; but the title is somewhat misleading, for the work is rather an autobiography than a book of "Travels," and its interest and attraction, which are considerable, lie rather in the unfolding of the writer's individuality, than in the description of the journeyings in which her early married life was passed. These, however, without actually increasing our geographical knowledge, are not unworthy of record, for the course of the Euphrates and the forests of Burmah are still far from being familiar ground, and the freshness of the writer's style and her keenness of perception would of themselves have given an interest to these parts of the narrative, even if the difficulties and dangers encountered had been slighter than they were. Mrs. Helfer takes her reader frankly into her confidence, and relates the graver events of her life so unaffectedly, combining pathos and humour with a certain quiet philosophy, that his sympathies are necessarily attracted. The daughter of a good Prussian family, she describes the circumstances which led to her marriage with Dr. Helfer, a young Austrian naturalist, whose combined love of science and adventure impelled him to sacrifice a comfortable home and good prospects to a wandering life. His wife,

who soon after their marriage had felt that something was amiss, at last penetrated the cause, and

"As Lot's wife, driven from her home by angels of wrath, was turned into a pillar of salt when she turned and beheld the destruction of all her soul had delighted in, so for a moment did I stand petrified and speechless, when I saw the quiet, cosy, domestic life which had become so endeared to me, in ruins. A future of endless wandering opened before my eyes. I was certain that only in this would Helfer find satisfaction; and at the same moment I resolved that his longings should be gratified—I would accompany him on his travels."

And she seems to have been admirably qualified to fill the position so gallantly undertaken. They started almost immediately, and after various adventures in Syria and elsewhere, fell in with the officers of the expedition which, under the command of Col. Chesney, was about to descend the Euphrates, and having accepted the offer of a passage, made the voyage to Basrah in their company. This seems to have been her first opportunity of forming an intimate acquaintance with our countrymen, and the judgments she passes on them are sometimes amusing enough. On a certain occasion her companions had taken no provisions with them, and gladly had recourse to her supplies, although "the English are so accustomed to their regular meals that they think it unseemly to take a bit of anything between." This was clearly written before the invention of Five o'clock tea. Afterwards she describes how, more than once, in Anglo-Indian society, she "suddenly rose many degrees in the scale of respectability" when it was discovered that she was well-born and well-connected. On one occasion she deliberately broke the ice at a stiff English dinner-party by asking a gentleman to drink wine with her.

But, on the whole, she likes and admires us. On the Euphrates steamer she notes that the use of the English church service produces "an elevated frame of mind," and is besides "in the most remote quarters of the globe, and under circumstances the most various, a bond of union between every member of the English nation." She records with gratitude the refined and delicate consideration she met with from the members of the Euphrates expedition, and her sorrow at parting from them, though this was expressed only by "a shake of the hand and a laconic good-bye, which, with the monosyllabic English, expresses all that other nations have many words for."

Dr. Helfer received from the Calcutta Government a scientific appointment in the new territory of British Burmah, where, after making some useful discoveries, and encountering some perilous adventures, he and his wife chose for themselves the site of a home whose beauty is glowingly described, on the banks of the Tenasserim river at Mergui. But the fates were adverse; before many months were over, Dr. Helfer was killed by an arrow shot while exploring the Andaman Islands. The "Travels," strictly speaking, end here, and Mrs. Helfer's aim and desire is that her record of them may serve as a memorial of her husband's labours, and a proof of the eminence to which he would have risen if not thus prematurely cut off. It is no disparagement to this pious intention to say that the interest of her work is much enhanced by the addition of the sequel, for her brave and patient endurance of hardships has already enlisted the reader's sympathies,

and he accordingly follows with undiminished interest her continued struggle with fortune, and welcomes the well-earned repose which succeeds. On her return home, Mrs. Helfer landed at Hamburg the day after the great fire:—

"After an absence of seven years, I once more set foot on my native soil on June 8th, 1842. It was covered with ashes and rubbish as far as the eye could reach. The great rich city, so proud of her commerce with the world, was in ruins. It was enveloped in thick clouds of smoke; innumerable tongues of flame shot up from the ruins, as if the devouring element was not yet satisfied. This harrowing sight was the greeting that awaited me. The cries of distress cut me to the heart. But it was not this alone that depressed me; to my eyes, accustomed to the verdure of the tropics, the hues of northern vegetation looked pale and chill, as if a sickly character was impressed on the whole landscape. It chilled me more than the temperature itself, and the joy of my return was damped by a tear."

Proceeding thence to Berlin she was at once sent for by the king, who had been much interested in her travels, and with whom she had some characteristic interviews:—

"One evening the supper, at which there were few present besides Humboldt [Alexander] and myself, was served at a small table, on one side of which the royal family were seated, and by the king's orders Humboldt and I were placed opposite to him. With a friendly nod he invited us to talk. I was abashed at being put into the same category as this learned man, and should have begged off if there had been time, but Humboldt at once began a discourse. He talked, as usual, much and well, until he was interrupted by the king with, 'Now Humboldt, you stop a bit, and let your neighbour talk; she can tell us something new.' I was ready to fall off my chair. Humboldt was to be silent for me to talk! That was too much, and I looked down at my plate in speechless confusion. The king, observing this, put questions about tropical countries, and thus opened the way for me; but I was happily soon released, for Humboldt, who of course knew it all far better than I did, joined in, and continued the conversation until he was again interrupted by the king."

Although many of her husband's papers were lost, Mrs. Helfer was able to bring home his collections of coleoptera, &c., and deposit them in the Museum at Prague. While thus engaged she became acquainted with the President of the Museum, Count Nostitz, and she describes with much humour and feeling the beginning of an intercourse which led to her marriage with him. She carried into her new existence the same qualities which distinguished her early career, and during a residence of many years in Hungary devoted herself to the improvement of the peasantry, and their agricultural education, without, as would appear, meeting with much success. It would have been beside the ostensible purpose of her work to treat this portion of her story with more detail, but we may be allowed to regret that she has not done so, and thereby given greater completeness to her book from the side where, as has been already said, its chief interest seems to us to lie.

Of the few slight inaccuracies in the narrative it would be ungracious to take notice. We cannot pronounce on the merits of the translation, not having seen the original, but it is written for the most part in idiomatic, though sometimes inelegant English.

*Le Gouvernement de M. Thiers. 8 Février, 1871—24 Mai, 1873. Par Jules Simon. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)*

THE most interesting chapter in this important work is, perhaps, the first, in which M. Simon gives the secret history of the elections to the first National Assembly after the fall of the Empire. M. Simon was behind the scenes during all the period which his narrative covers, and is able consequently to confirm and supplement contemporary gossip in many significant details. But the freshness has been taken off most of his disclosures as to the difficulties surmounted by the founders of the Republic in beating down the demands of the Germans on the one hand, and counter-working the intrigues of domestic enemies—Communists, Bonapartists, Legitimists, and Orleanists—on the other. The world already knew how stupendous M. Thiers's efforts had been, and had more than a general idea of the nature of the obstacles with which he had to contend. The story of his negotiations with Prince Bismarck has often been told, and the public reports were the best evidence of his wonderful success in forcing an Assembly three parts monarchical to join with him in constructing a republic. But the secret history of the memorable ten days between the conclusion of the armistice and the election of the Assembly, before M. Thiers appeared upon the scene, was comparatively unknown, although it contains the record of an achievement hardly less remarkable than the liberation of the territory and the founding of the Republic.

When M. Jules Favre announced to Prince Bismarck on the 29th of January that the Government of National Defence had resolved to hold the elections on the 8th of the ensuing month, the German Chancellor told him that it was impossible. "C'était, en effet," M. Simon remarks, "impossible; et, cependant, ce fut fait." The difficulties were certainly enormous. More than one-third of the departments were in the hands of the invaders, and under the administration of German officials. In other departments the municipal service had been disorganized by the war. The electoral lists had not been rectified; in some cases they had disappeared altogether; and when 400,000 electors were prisoners in Germany, the lists could not in any case approach accuracy. Communications with many parts of the country were interrupted. And this was not all. The government of France outside Paris was delegated to a commission sitting at Bordeaux, under the presidency of M. Gambetta. The Government at Paris did not even know that the Delegation would consent to the armistice. They had every reason to believe that M. Gambetta, whose will was law with his colleagues, would object to two important points in the electoral law which they had drawn up, and would refuse to hold the elections under such conditions. They had decided that no candidate should be prohibited and no elector debarred from the suffrage on the ground of political antecedents, and that no *préfet* or *sous-préfet* should be eligible as a candidate in his own department. M. Gambetta had frequently expressed an opinion that all Ministers of the Empire, all Senators, Councillors of State, *Préfets*, and former official candidates, should be excluded

from the future Assembly. He was not likely to have changed this opinion, and, as all the most trustworthy Republicans had been distributed by him through the public service of the departments, he was certain to object to an interdict being placed upon their candidature. Still, M. Jules Favre and his colleagues were convinced of the wisdom of their plan, and resolved to despatch M. Simon to Bordeaux to argue M. Gambetta out of his views, or overrule him in the name of the Central Government.

Two of the all-important ten days were spent by M. Simon in the passage from Paris to Bordeaux, and, when he arrived there, he had at first little prospect of success. It seemed as if the strife between the Paris Government and the Bordeaux Delegation could only be settled by a civil war. M. Gambetta was not to be persuaded that the admission of candidates of Imperialist antecedents and the exclusion of his own officials would not result in bringing back either the Empire or the Monarchy. His colleagues agreed with him that elections held under such conditions would be fatal to the chances of a Republic. In vain M. Simon argued that unless the majority of the people were in favour of a Republic it could not in any case be permanently established. He was told that an Assembly elected as he wished would not fairly represent the people. He tried the other three members of the Delegation individually, but, with one exception, they stood firm to M. Gambetta. Before he left Paris he had obtained from the Government a decree that, in the event of the Delegation's resistance, he had full powers to compel their assent. But at Bordeaux M. Simon found that all the official instruments of compulsion would obey M. Gambetta rather than himself. He appealed to the *Maire* and the Municipal Councillors, but they declined to recognize any authority save that of the Delegation, who had immediately issued a decree declaring the ineligibility of the functionaries of the Empire. M. Thiers was then at Bordeaux, and M. Simon sought his advice. The advice of the veteran but still impetuous statesman was that he should immediately have recourse to force, and with this view should sound the general in command at Bordeaux. M. Simon was reluctant to adopt this course—all the more so when he found, on making cautious approaches to the magistrates of the city and the officers of the army, that the general opinion inclined to M. Gambetta, and that to attempt to use force would be to kindle civil war. He hit upon a more politic expedient. The Delegation held power from the Government of National Defence. Its numbers could be increased at the pleasure of the Central Government. M. Simon resolved to send to Paris for as many of his colleagues as would give him a majority in the Delegation. He had considerable difficulties, of which he gives a minute and interesting detail, in executing this project, because he feared that the Delegation would intercept his communications; but the additional members arrived on the 6th, M. Gambetta resigned, the crisis was over, and the elections were duly held on the 8th.

Both M. Gambetta and M. Simon may be said to have been justified by events in their opposite opinions, M. Gambetta by the cha-

racter of the National Assembly, and M. Simon by the ultimate establishment of the Republic. The Assembly, which held its first sitting at Bordeaux on the 13th of February, counted only 250 Republicans in its total of 768 members. The strict duty of a supreme Parliament elected in so scrambling a fashion and in so pressing an emergency would have been to decide on the great question of peace or war, to authorize the necessary negotiations, and then separate, having made provision for the regular election of a more completely representative successor. But it soon appeared that this Assembly had no intention of thus limiting its duration and its functions. It was the supreme power in the State; there was no superior authority to dissolve it; and the instinct of self-preservation forbade it to pronounce its own dissolution. One of its first duties was to elect a Chief of the Executive, and in the resolution by which M. Thiers was unanimously chosen to this post the majority inserted a preamble announcing their intention of proceeding to establish a form of government, and recognizing the Republican form only as a provisional arrangement. In choosing M. Thiers, however, as Chief of the Executive, the Assembly had chosen not a servant but a master. The nomination of a Council or Cabinet rested with him. In choosing his ministers he went on the same plan that William the Third adopted in somewhat similar circumstances. He did not follow our modern cabinet system of taking them from the majority, but aimed professedly at least at forming a Cabinet which should reflect the balance of parties in the Assembly. But, at the same time, he looked rather within than without for his principle of selection, and practically consulted only his own judgment. He gave three important portfolios to declared Republicans, and distributed the rest among members of the Right Centre and the Right. The majority was discontented; but M. Thiers was felt to be indispensable. He had to change his ministers frequently, and each time that he changed had to substitute a less decided type of Republican; but by peremptory threats of resignation he succeeded in obtaining ministers more or less of his own way of thinking till the liberation of the territory was completed, and the reactionists felt strong enough to drive him from power.

It is difficult to say how far the outbreak of the Communists was caused by the resolution of the Assembly not to sit at Paris. This resolution was forced upon the executive, the Monarchical sections knowing that their strength lay in the country, and setting themselves to diminish by every possible means the influence of the large towns, and particularly to discredit the preponderance of the capital. It was only the urgency of M. Thiers that prevented them from fixing the seat of the Assembly at Fontainebleau. M. Simon seems to think that this sensibly increased the hold of the Communistic leaders upon the Parisian population, who could see one definite object in their crude and distracted schemes, namely, opposition to the Parliament of the "ruraux." M. Simon devotes two long chapters to the Parisian revolt, and, while doing justice to the bravery and talent of such soldiers as Cluseret and Rossel, brings out with much force and clearness the aimlessness of the political leaders of

the movement. They all wanted to lead, and not one of them knew whither he wanted to go. As M. Simon has to justify the surrender of Paris to the Germans by the government of which he was a member, he describes at some length the futile sorties of armed rabbles against the disciplined troops of Versailles. He departs from his ordinarily grave style to throw ridicule upon the "sorties torrentielles" for which the populace clamoured. It was an article of faith in Paris during the German siege that if the people went forth in the might of their enthusiasm they must be irresistible. The Government of Defence were reproached for not using this enthusiasm as they might have done. "Learn," M. Simon says, "what the result would have been from the 'sorties torrentielles' of the Commune." The parallel is not quite complete, because there was or ought to have been more discipline among the troops of the Government, but it is worth noting as the most marked attempt at sarcastic retort in an otherwise soberly coloured and dispassionate history.

M. Simon's picture of the intense concentration of power at Versailles in the hands of one man is not less clear and complete than his picture of the distraction and division among the Communal leaders. M. Thiers was unrelenting and ubiquitous. Even the direction of the army felt the influence of his will. He inspected everything, from the ramparts to the food and clothing of the soldiers. There is no instance in history of a man exercising such dictatorial power under a parliamentary form of government. Nothing of any consequence was done in any department of the public service without his knowledge and consent, and all the time he had to overbear a distrustful majority in Parliament and to carry on delicate negotiations with an exacting conqueror in occupation of the country. To have done little mischief while he preserved the government of France from disorganization would have been a great feat; it is little short of miraculous that his constructive efforts should have been so pre-eminently successful. It is something of a paradox that a constitutional presidency should have been founded by a man whose temper was so extremely the opposite of that of a constitutional president. M. Thiers would not accept the presidency himself without a proviso that he should be allowed to explain and defend his schemes to the Assembly, and it was perhaps as well that this exceptional privilege, so opposed to the spirit of constitutional government, did not pass into a law. For two years he worked on at the same superhuman pressure, and yet, unlike Chaucer's lawyer, who "always seemed busier than he was," he wore all the time a much less preoccupied air than any of his subordinates.

"Il est très-vrai que M. Thiers se mêlait de tout. C'était un spectacle curieux que de voir comment il s'occupait des plus petits détails sans s'y égarer, et en conservant toujours son esprit libre pour les grandes affaires et les vues d'ensemble. On a publié des détails très-circumstanciés sur deux prétendus conseils : l'un composé des chefs de service des ministères, qui se trouvaient chez lui aux premières heures de la matinée; l'autre, le Conseil des ministres, qui avait lieu tous les jours à 11 heures du matin, sans autre exception que le dimanche. Il y a, dans tout cela, du

vrai et du faux; plus de faux que de vrai. Le seul conseil était le Conseil des ministres; mais sans qu'il y eût aucun autre conseil le matin, ni aucune convocation régulière et collective, le Président employait bien sa matinée. Il recevait les directeurs des finances, des généraux, des intendans, quelques hommes en qui il avait une confiance particulière, comme le général Valazé, l'amiral Krantz; il aimait à savoir les affaires des ministres un peu avant les ministres, ce qui n'était pas toujours du goût de ceux-ci. Il voyait aussi des gens de police, au grand désespoir de ses amis, qui trouvaient cela au-dessous de lui. Il en riait. 'C'est avec ces coquins-là qu'on tire les honnêtes gens d'affaire.' Toutes les dépêches passaient sous ses yeux. Il voulait savoir, minute par minute, l'état de la France, celui de l'Europe, toutes nos relations avec le chancelier de l'Empire, et avec le moindre général des corps d'occupation. Tant que M. Jules Favre fut ministre des affaires étrangères, il le logea chez lui, pour avoir plus vite les nouvelles sous la main. Il fit ensuite organiser un corps de logis pour M. de Rémusat dans l'enceinte de la préfecture. Il avait tous les jours des conférences avec le ministre de l'Intérieur, le ministre des Finances. Il faisait venir le gouverneur de la Banque, les grands financiers. Il s'occupait minutieusement de tous les détails de l'administration de la guerre, armement, équipement, logement, nourriture. L'armée de Paris ne faisait pas un mouvement sans ses ordres. On le voyait tous les jours aux avant-postes. Il s'inquiétait des tarifs de douanes, c'était une de ses plus grandes passions. Deux ministères seulement restaient en dehors de son ingérence et de sa surveillance : la justice, parce qu'il ne fait pas bon se mêler des affaires de M. Dufaure, l'instruction publique et les cultes, parce qu'il se reposait, pour ces deux points, sur la prudence et la compétence du ministre. Il n'était pas toujours d'accord avec M. Dufaure et M. Jules Simon. Plus d'une fois il demanda à M. Dufaure des modifications dans le personnel, sans les obtenir. Il ne se souciait pas non plus de l'instruction obligatoire ni des aggravations de dépense en faveur du corps enseignant. Mais tout se bornait à une objection qui venait de loin en loin; il cédait toujours avec amitié, avec bonhomie. Qui avait, plus que lui, le droit d'intervenir dans tout ce qui avait trait aux sciences et aux lettres? Mais il voulait bien dire qu'il était à cet égard en pleine sécurité. Il remettait tranquillement au ministre toutes les lettres qu'il recevait contre lui, et cela faisait un raisonnable paquet tous les jours. Son âme était absorbée par sa triple lutte avec la commune, la chancellerie allemande et l'Assemblée. Il y avait de quoi remplir trois existences. Il suffisait à tout, grâce à la force de sa volonté, et à l'extrême lucidité de son esprit. Il semblait être toujours tout entier à l'affaire présente, et à la personne présente. Bien des gens qui ne font pas la vingtième partie de sa besogne, prennent des airs affairés qu'on ne lui voyait jamais. Il n'était pas seulement maître de son esprit, mais de son humeur. Non qu'il parvint à se contenir quand on l'irritait, ou qu'il se donnât beaucoup de peine pour cela. Si on le blessait, ou même si on l'ennuyait, il le laissait voir sans trop se gêner. Mais il n'était pas de tempérament mélancolique. Il avait des accès de gaieté pendant les plus grandes crises. Il saisissait au passage un mot heureux, ou plaisant. Même une plaisanterie un peu grivoise ne l'effrayait pas. Une surface toujours mobile, avec un fond sérieux et persistant. Il n'aurait pas pu suffire à ce travail épuisant, sans cette gaieté native, qui revenait sans effort, et qui le remettait en paix et en verve."

It might have been well for M. Simon if he had been content with admiring the character which he paints with such force. During his own tenure of the chief ministry he was more than suspected of yielding to the force of his leader's example, to the detriment of his own position and the doubtful benefit of the public service.

In the last chapter of the work a minute

account is given of the growing embarrassments of M. Thiers in the face of the hostile majority, and of the intrigues by which he was finally driven from office. M. Simon's history of the Government of M. Thiers should take very much the same position in French literature that Bishop Burnet's 'History of his own Time' holds in ours. Like that valuable work, it is almost exclusively a political history—a history of legislative and executive measures written from behind the scenes by a man competent to give an account of the motive forces there at work. It is to be hoped that the parallel goes further, and that both are alike histories of the foundation of a stable constitution. As M. Simon's narrative is intended for his own time as well as for posterity, there is, perhaps, this difference, that it is more of a political pamphlet than Bishop Burnet's sober annals. At the same time it is animated by a most impartial spirit. M. Simon has sufficient sense of the gravity of the crisis through which his country has passed, and is passing, to prevent him from trying to obtrude his own personality. He did no small service to his country, but we cannot trace the least attempt to magnify his own share in the good work.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*A Chequered Life.* By Mrs. Day. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*Land Ahead!* By Courtney Grant. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

*Once! Twice! Thrice! and Away!* By May Probyn. (Remington.)

*L'Idée de Jean Téterol.* Par Victor Cherbuliez. (Paris, Hachette et C<sup>ie</sup>.)

*Un Coin de la Vie de Misère.* Par Paul Heusy. (Paris, Librairie Générale.)

THE title 'A Chequered Life' may be considered an excuse for a rambling story and might serve as a decent veil for an author's inability to contrive a plot. In Mrs. Day's book, however, it is impossible to tell which of the various lives she goes through is supposed to be chequered. They are all of the conventional pattern of high life in second-rate novels. Given two brace of young husbands and wives, a widow, and a handsome, distinguished bachelor, and the plot is ready-made. There only remains the padding, in which any variety is possible. Mrs. Day's book contains such excellent examples of every fault which goes to make a bad novel that it is worth some attention. Taking Lalage out of Miss Broughton's 'Joan,' and calling her Lady Anne, Mrs. Day has apparently trusted to herself for the rest of her characters. They are all lifeless, inconsistent, or impossible, and give Mrs. Day plenty of opportunities for exhibiting bad taste. That they should be lords and ladies and plutocrats may be assumed to be necessary, but Mrs. Day does not know her peerage well enough even to avoid the mistake of calling an earl's younger son Lord John, or a stupid bit of rudeness in using such a well-known name as that of Lord Kensington. The Earl of Kelso is represented as a shrewd, busy politician, "one of the great ones of the earth in wealth, rank, knowledge," and yet a ray of moonlight makes him reflect that "he stood a single human being in the great universe, all outward show and semblance seemed to drop from him, life narrowed itself to just his

span of years, so short, so small in comparison with the immensity and eternity of God."

It is to be hoped that another moment's reflection would have reminded him that outward semblance dropping from him was nonsense, but, judging from his reflections in other parts of the book, it seems that the hope would be too sanguine. Lady Kelso's talk appears to be given with much relish:—

"You have heard the story of Lady Edith Brandon? It was in every one's mouth last winter. She positively had four, if not five, lovers. My dear, it is as bad as a woman of the town. It was very shocking, but really the letters were amusing."

It is not what Mrs. Day's characters do or say that is to be blamed, but the admiration with which the author seems to dwell upon the vices of society. She reminds us of the footman in 'Vanity Fair,' exclaiming in the ecstasy of his delight at young George Osborne, "How he du damn and swear!" Then, by way of contrast, there are masses of unctuous morality interlarded with quotations from the Bible. It is not for us to question the sincerity of this stuff, but it is unpleasant when it has to be taken along with a sickly sympathy with vice and jokes such as the following:—

"If religious people were half as bent on saying their prayers as John is on going to Mr. Hare, they'd all go to heaven at once. The Almighty couldn't stand being bothered that way. . . . I've a great respect for the Almighty really and truly. He gave you to me, and I like Him accordingly."

It is difficult to see the wit of this, but whether witty or only stupid it certainly makes more disgusting the religious sentimentality of other parts of the book.

But it must not be supposed that 'A Chequered Life' is wholly unamusing. In the first place the bad French, which Mrs. Day, like her heroine, seems to use "when hurried," the bad spelling, and the bad grammar, are all bad enough to avoid being merely dull. The "word-painting" in which author and characters revel is also exceptionally absurd. But the similes are the best. Unfortunately we cannot give them in their proper setting, which adds to their delightfully idiotic effect:—

"The voice of the river, like a low diapason, brought through her sense of hearing another fine thread of thought (or is imagination a better word?) twining over and under the main threads."

"The words sounded like beads, round and clear-cut."

"She looked up with blue eyes, bright like forget-me-nots, for the raindrops that they held."

The reading of such a book tends to give one a better opinion of society as it really is. People may be more wicked, but they certainly are not such fools.

'Land Ahead!' is written with a fair amount of spirit, and does not gravely offend against the canons of English prose; but it cannot be described as anything else than an unpleasant story. The heroine is loved by two men, who follow her unscrupulously, and alternately harass and torment her without the slightest compunction. One marries her, bullies and insults her, and then sets her free with the death-bed tenderness of a good Christian; the other pursues her when married, compromises her, and asks her, before her husband, to choose between them. She, for her part, treats them both rather scurvily;

but, as the end of the third volume approaches, she suddenly changes from a passionate, spiteful, almost treacherous woman, into a suffering and magnanimous saint. Mr. Grant displays considerable power in the management of his incidents, and in reporting the conversations of his personages; but, as may be gathered from what has preceded, he does not contrive to suggest adequate motives for the incongruous actions of his heroes and heroines, who seem to be ever ready with noble or with unworthy deeds, as the exigencies of the narrative require. In other words, 'Land Ahead!' is not a probable story, so far as its details are concerned. And, again, there is not much to be said for the manners or good taste of Mr. Grant's characters, who are abrupt and rude almost without exception. An elderly gentleman goes to see an old friend, and, being received by the latter's wife in a hospitable mood, he begins to make her uncomfortable by questioning her. "I hate being questioned," she says. "So do I," replies the visitor. Then, we are told, "their eyes met." Mr. Mortimer coughed drily, rubbed his eye-glass, changed his position, and ultimately sat down." Again, a widowed mother and her daughter accidentally meet a youth who had formerly been rejected by the young girl, and who had just inherited a large fortune. The mother attracts his attention, tells him their address, and says to him, "You are a rich man now, Sir Dudley Vane; a great man?" The daughter, after going through a mild parody of 'The Bridge of Sighs,' spread over a four-page conversation, in which the eight cues are ingeniously supplied by the author, ends by asking Sir Dudley for news of his rival, in whose favour she had cast him off. Such passages as these are serious blemishes, which spoil many a bit of good and interesting work. The book is not improved by the frequent introduction of little scraps of German, or by clumsy expressions, such as the calling of an unsuitable marriage an "anachronism." But, in spite of all this, 'Land Ahead!' is readable.

'Once! Twice! Thrice! and Away' is a pretty little love-story. It is that and absolutely nothing more, for there is no plot, no character-drawing, and no incidents except those which mark the course of a romantic courtship and a runaway match. A young artist comes down to a nobleman's country-seat to paint the portraits of his lordship's daughter and nephew, who are engaged to be married. He saves the heiress's life, falls in love with her, talks over her mother with great ease, and wins her affection; and, in the most ingenuous manner possible, the two lovers take matters into their own hands, cut the knot that has fettered many more skilful folk than themselves, and marry each other right away. All this will show clearly enough that Miss Probyn is a novice at the art of fiction; but there are sufficient grace and tenderness in the romance of Dudley Wyld and Diamond Fitz-Oswald to make one pass lightly over the improbabilities and incompleteness of the rest of the story.

'L'Idée de Jean Téterol,' which first appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* during the present summer, is, in the opinion of many, the best work of the author of 'Méta Holdenis.' The success of M. Cherbuliez is not in the invention of his story. The plot is clear from p. 45;—it is absurd, and with a

commonplace absurdity; the situations are as old as the art of fiction; but while writers are plenty who can concoct sensational stories, there are few indeed who can draw characters as M. Cherbuliez has drawn it in Jean Téterol and the Baron—the latter a selfish man of pleasure, the former a selfish self-made man. The powerful, purse-proud ex-bricklayer's-labourer, who gives his name to the story, will live in the recollection of every reader.

M. Zola has founded a school. M. Paul Heusy, a new writer, who has just published a volume containing four short stories, of which one is dedicated to M. Zola, belongs to this school, and may lend it strength, for he has the power of holding the attention of his reader. His four stories are all of one character: in each of them the writer preaches the doctrine that manliness and chastity must be looked upon as luxuries for the rich, for that poverty must crush the virtuous poor.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE volume devoted to *Lucretius* in Messrs. Blackwood's "Ancient Classics for English Readers" will doubtless be a surprise to all readers and a disappointment to most. Mr. Mallock's reputation would lead us to expect in any work of his something at least of wit, or flippancy, or brilliance of design or of execution, but each and all of these are lacking in this 'Lucretius.' The book is, indeed, essentially commonplace, and, for its purpose, of much less value than many other volumes of the same series. It contains an introductory chapter which promises a great deal more than is anywhere in the book performed. This is followed by a short and clear but unsympathetic account of the dawn of physical science in Ionia first and later in European Greece. The third chapter, which is really excellent and valuable, contains a *résumé* of Lucretius's scientific theories, as propounded in his poem. Mr. Mallock then turns to the literary merits of the 'De Rerum Natura,' and again unnecessarily runs through the whole work, giving this time copious verse translations from the original. The translations, which in language recall somewhat the style of the 'Earthly Paradise,' are occasionally neat, but, as a rule, are spoilt by excessive padding, which gives a very wrong notion of the marked self-restraint of the Latin. A short criticism of Lucretius as a poet brings Mr. Mallock at last to 'Lucretius and Modern Thought,' but even on this subject he has no more to say than that the old conflict between science and theology, materialism and supernaturalism is still afoot, and that the chief, indeed the sole, interest of Lucretius to any one but "a scholar, a bookworm, or a critic" is that he serves to remind the reader how altered the conditions of the conflict now are from what they were in the poet's day. There is, indeed, throughout the book a tone of undisguised contempt for the subject which to other persons besides scholars, bookworms, and critics will be unpleasant. Nor is this contempt ever softened even to pity. It is nothing to Mr. Mallock that Lucretius was one of the two really spontaneous poets that Rome produced, or that among the fribbles and brawlers and litigants and murderers that made "a steaming slaughter-house" of the city he almost alone was, in his own way, seeking for truth and virtue, so friendless and forlorn that he could find no comrade worthier than the profligate and impudent C. Memmius, nor any follower kind enough to keep his name alive among his own people. There is little dignity, it would seem in the wonder of the early physicists, and no pathos in their multitudinous errors. "It is no good reading about these old things," thinks Mr. Mallock; "however, if you like, I will abstract the 'De Rerum Natura' for you. As for the author, 'next to nothing is known for certain, beyond the fact that he was a Roman of probably noble family, that he died in the prime of his

manhood about half a century before the birth of Christ, and that a legend ascribes his death to the effects of a maddening love-philtre.' Bookworms who want to know more about this old Philistine will have to go elsewhere."

MAJOR H. S. PALMER has contributed a small volume on *Sinai from the Fourth Egyptian Dynasty to the Present Day* to the series of popular historical works published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The author furnishes a most satisfactory account of the Peninsula of Sinai, and more especially of that portion of it which was explored and surveyed in 1868-69, by the Ordnance Survey Expedition, of which he was a member. The results of the surveys and explorations have been laid down in five bulky folios, and a carefully prepared *prices* of so repellent a work should be heartily welcomed. The author describes the Egyptian and other remains discovered in the country, and enters fully into the controversy concerning the Sinaitic Rock inscriptions. In tracing the route followed by the Israelites he identifies Jebel Musa with the Sinai of Scripture. Rival theories are dismissed in a couple of pages, and we are referred for further information to Dr. Birch's volume on Egypt, which forms part of the same series.

"*Alter Ejesdem*," being another instalment of *Lilla and Lyrics*, by the Author of 'Mistura Curiosa,' illustrated (Maclelan & Stewart), is a collection of lively verses. Most of the poems are in the strongest "Scotch" dialect, and they contain terms as hideous to the eye as the ear; e.g., of a "burnie":—

"Out o' the fozy fog,  
Out o' the lairy bog,  
Cauld as it seips frae the wauchie well-e's,  
Rinnin' in water draps,  
Toddlin' in apedlin' staps,  
Gullers the burnie that wins to the sea.

Mr. Tennyson wrote something with the same motive as the above, and in English which is at once euphonious and true. This is the extreme example of the folly of writing in a graceless dialect fancies so trivial that they will not bear translating into English. It is a pity our author condescends to such foolery, seeing that he can use our language with considerable facility and some felicity. The illustrations consist of cleverly-made sketches of figures and landscapes.

MR. F. C. PRICE, the fac-similist, has just published a *Fac-simile of an Heraldic MS.* by J. Withie, containing the *Armes of the Aldermen of Aldersgate Ward from 1451 to 1616*. This excellent little book is marked by Mr. Price's well-known skill, and will prove an interesting addition to the library of the herald, genealogist, and topographical antiquarian.

WE have on our table *The Conquest of New Mexico and California*, by P. St. G. Cooke (New York, Putnam);—*Modern England*, by O. Browning (Longmans);—*A Text Book of Arithmetic*, by T. Muir (Daldy, Isbister & Co.);—*The Sight, and How to Preserve It*, by H. C. Angell, M.D. (Hardwicke & Bogue);—*Good Health, and How to Secure It*, by R. B. D. Wells (Burns);—*The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone from 'Judy's' Point of View*, (Judy Office);—*Paul Jones*, by J. Ward (Dean & Son);—*Ups and Downs*, by R. Boldrewood (Silver & Co.);—*Hunted Down*, by J. McGowan (Edinburgh Publishing Company);—*Bright Sundays* (Cassell);—*Savonarola: his Life and Times*, by W. R. Clark, M.A. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge);—*The Inner Life*, by Rev. T. Erskine (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge);—*The House of God the Home of Man*, by the Rev. G. E. Jelf, M.A. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge);—*The Story of Esther the Queen*, by A. M. Symington (The Religious Tract Society);—*The Four Gardens* (Stock);—*Catalogue des Manuscrits Ethiopiens (Ghez et Amharique) de la Bibliothèque Nationale* (Paris);—*Zur Geschichte der englischen Arbeiterbewegung in den Jahren 1873 und 1874*, by Dr. F. Kleinwächter (Jena, Fischer);—and *Aus dem Urchristenthum*, Vol. I., by Dr. T. Keim (Nutt). Among New Editions we have *Sinhalese made Easy* (Colombo, Ferguson);—*Rás Malla*, by the late A. K. Forbes

(Richardson & Co.),—and *The Works of Flavius Josephus*, Translated by W. Whiston (Ward, Lock & Co.). Also the following Pamphlets: *Exercises in Elementary Elocution*, by G. W. Baynham (Collins & Co.);—*Cookery for the Artisan and Others*, by M. Smithard (Chapman & Hall);—*England's Mission*, by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone (Hodges);—*England, China, and Opium*, by the Hon. Sir E. Fry (Bumpus);—*The New Departure in Catholic Liberal Education*, by A. Catholic Barrister (Dublin, Gill & Son);—and *A Plea for Reform in the Church and her Clergy*, by "Sapere-Aude" (Wyman & Sons).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Oxford, Saturday, Oct. 5.

THE work of Wednesday morning began, Mr. Cox being in the chair, with the consideration of a preliminary Report of the Committee appointed at last year's Conference to examine into the feasibility of making a general catalogue of English literature. The subject had, at the request of the Prince of Wales, been taken up by the Society of Arts, a committee of which had taken evidence from several members of the Association and from others. Efforts also had been made by the librarians to secure the co-operation of the Trustees of the British Museum in the undertaking, but so far without success. The substance of the preliminary Report was contained in the four resolutions following:—

"1. That the General Catalogue of English Literature should consist of an alphabetical catalogue under authors' names, to be followed by class bibliographies or subject-indexes. 2. That it should comprehend all books printed in English either in the United Kingdom or abroad, including pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, periodicals, together with translations of foreign works, but not editions in foreign languages, even with brief English notes. 3. That it should be brought down to the latest possible date. 4. That titles should be abridged, but the abridgment should be indicated."

The Committee say in conclusion:—

"Upon what lines a general catalogue should be constructed is the question to which in this preliminary Report the Committee confine themselves. What practical steps must be taken to secure the preparation and publication of this catalogue is the question that next has to be considered. It is, however, certain that without the co-operation of the British Museum in one shape or another the difficulties of the task will be infinitely increased."

Mr. Cornelius Walford opened the discussion that ensued by a summary of his paper 'On Some Practical Points in the Preparation of a General Catalogue of English Literature.' In order to secure a complete collection of the titles of English books he would invite the assistance of all the librarians and collectors of the empire. He exhibited a slip of stiff cartridge-paper, with printed indications as to where the title, size, and date of the book should be written. These slips, of uniform size, should be sent out blank to all who are willing to work at the scheme, and, when filled up, be returned to some common centre, say the British Museum, to be revised and sorted. Only, to avoid needless repetition, certain well-known bibliographical lists, such as Allibone's, Lowndes's, and Watt's, should be taken as work done, and the titles contained in them should not be sent in, unless they corrected some error of description. The payment, say, of threepence for each accepted slip would bring in a large number to the central office, even when it was understood that the rejected slips would not be paid for.

Mr. W. E. A. Axon's paper, entitled, 'Is a Printed Catalogue of the British Museum practicable?' was answered favourably in a most interesting speech by Mr. Bullen, who announced, amid much applause, that the Trustees had agreed to print a catalogue of English books printed at home and abroad down to the year 1640, which would be a

valuable contribution to a catalogue of English literature. He believed that in three years' time this catalogue would be printed. It was his firm desire to have a complete alphabetical catalogue of the books in the British Museum printed. It might be done in five years. Mr. Garnett made a remark of practical value when he proposed that henceforth all entries in the existing British Museum should be in print, and said that he would himself prefer a catalogue of books since 1640 to a catalogue of books before 1640.

Dr. Acland gave an interesting account of the history, arrangement, and management of the Radcliffe Library, which, as Dr. Rolleston said afterwards, is as rich in scientific works as any English library save that of the British Museum. The iron bookcases erected in the Radcliffe, after a design of Mr. William Froude, the well-known investigator of wave lines, were minutely described by Dr. Acland, and attracted attention. Mr. Yates, of Leeds, described the various indicators in use in Free Libraries in various parts of the country, giving the palm to that invented by Mr. Elliot, of Wolverhampton, who, being present and taking part in the discussion, was loudly applauded. Mr. E. B. Nicholson urged the appointment of a committee to consider the propriety of adopting a new method of describing the size of books, while Mr. Bullen and Mr. Parfit expressed satisfaction with the present system of notation.

A meeting of the Council was held in the evening at Lincoln College to decide on the next place of meeting, and afterwards the Association was received by Dr. Acland in the Radcliffe Library, which was beautifully lighted up, and called forth many expressions of admiration from the visitors.

On Thursday morning Mr. Clarke, librarian of the Advocates' Library, was called to the chair in the absence of Mr. Cox. The first business was an account, given by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, of the Proceedings of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee, which had been increased to twenty-eight members, nine of whom belong to one or other House of Parliament, and nearly all of whom are well known to the public. At Whitechapel the board of trustees have resolved to form a public library, and include some of the small parishes round in its benefits. The sum of 800*l.* and 1,000 volumes have been promised in aid of the movement. Many provincial towns had applied to the committee for information to guide them in securing the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts, which, in Mr. Nicholson's opinion, required consolidation.

The report of the committee on 'Poole's Index to Periodical Literature,' was adopted. It appealed to all members of the Association for information as to the authorship of anonymous articles in Reviews and Magazines, information which the publishers generally did not feel themselves at liberty to give. Mr. Nicholson stated, however, that an article in the *Quarterly* of 1819, which had long been attributed to Sir Walter Scott, had been recently shown by Mr. Murray to have been written by Madden. Mr. Bailey, of the Radcliffe Library, read a paper on a 'Subject Index to Scientific Periodical Literature,' which was received with much favour, and was followed by a paper from Mr. E. C. Thomas on a 'Proposed Index to Collectaneous Literature,' by which term were meant the numerous essays and treatises scattered throughout our literature which are not of the nature of periodicals.

Mr. Robert Harrison, of the London Library, read a paper on 'The Salaries of Librarians.' He professed himself unwilling to deal with the salaries of gentlemen connected with the great national libraries, who were more competent than himself to settle the question of their own remuneration. It would be unbecoming in him to touch upon individual cases of emolument. All he could do was to take the authoritative statements of the Blue Books published by Order of Parliament in 1876 and 1877, and from the entries there made under the head of salaries calculate the amount of reward given to librarians in various parts of England for their heterogeneous labours.

The result was that at Birmingham, the most favourable instance, the several duties of purchasing books, cataloguing them, arranging them, lending and taking them back, keeping the registers, preparing for the bookbinder, attending committees, answering the queries of readers, and performing a multitude of other functions, the recompense given was at the rate of 1*6* farthing, or about one half of what is paid to the shoeblack for cleaning one shoe. Reckoned by time, the pay was less than the public office writers' pay of 10*d.* an hour. Some of the returns in the Blue Book were very significant. One borough announced that the salaries of librarian, charwoman, &c., were 93*l.*; another that the librarian received 47*l.* 7*s.* and the housekeeper 23*l.* 15*s.*; a third town, making use of the plural noun, returns 38*l.* 13*s.* to the "librarians." Excluding five large towns, the salaries paid to librarians and assistants together range from 20*l.* to 476*l.* The lowest individual salary in this range is 20*l.* and the highest 150*l.* Mr. Harrison thought that if the vocation of librarian is to be raised to a profession for which men will go through a proper training, the minimum salary should be 250*l.*, while great knowledge and accomplishments should meet with higher rewards. In conclusion, he urged upon the meeting the imperative duty of founding a benevolent society, to include curators of museums, and to be called, "The Librarians' and Curators' Fund."

Mr. Allnutt read a valuable paper on the provincial press of England, adding a list of about 250 towns and the earliest date at which each is known to have possessed a printing-press, and the name of the first printer there. Mr. Henry Stevens gave a brief summary of his important paper on the Postal Union, which he boldly proclaimed to be the true constitution of the famous Republic of Letters. By it books may be procured from any part of the world included in the Union for the moderate carriage rate of one penny per two ounces.

It was resolved to meet next year in Manchester, and that the representatives of Lancashire at this Conference should be appointed a committee to carry out the necessary local arrangements for next year's Conference at Manchester, with power to add to their number, and with Messrs. C. W. Sutton and G. L. Campbell as honorary secretaries.

The following other resolutions were passed:—

"That the Council be recommended to consider whether for better public information on the cathedral libraries, deans and chapters might be respectfully requested—1, to print their catalogues; 2, to advertise the hours, days, and rules of admission. Their librarians should be invited to join the Association.

"That a list of old parochial and old grammar-school libraries as known at present to exist in the United Kingdom be published in the proceedings of this Association, and that Dr. Bray's associates be invited to co-operate in completing this list.

"That the Council be recommended to take all opportunities of influencing public opinion in favour of the Public Libraries Act, and also to obtain Government aid to meet local funds raised for library and museum purposes." R. H.

## EBENEZER JONES AND SUMNER JONES.

WHEN I hear it said that the latter part of Ebenezer Jones's life—the time, I mean, between the publication of his book in 1843 to his death in 1860—was as barren as Alfred de Musset's, I feel that the causes of his sterility as a poet should be clearly indicated, even if one of those causes cannot be dwelt upon. These were the failure of his published book, followed by a marriage that was a more disastrous failure still. But here I am met at once by the twofold reply that no man ought to be sterilized by the failure of a first book; and that as to the unhappy marriage, the fault is pretty sure to have lain with himself, inasmuch as the unhappiness of poets' marriages has become a proverb almost. Now I will not deny that being a poet there is apparently a strong case against

him, for poets' marriages are not in a general way made in heaven; undoubtedly it is difficult to marry genius comfortably.

And, consequently, it seems hard to defend Ebenezer Jones here without entering into those very details which would make a defence, but which, nevertheless, I must leave untouched. Therefore I will proceed to deal with the first point,—the almost unexampled effect upon him of the failure of a first book, which, with all its imperfections, was still, as he must have known, full of the very essence of poetry. Yet, before doing so, it seems imperative to say this much on the matter of the marriage—that the whole of those who knew most intimately Ebenezer Jones and his wife agree in thinking that in their case the poet was not the faulty party. He had really loved once; and it is important to him as a poet that it should be known.

Among any given thousand men there is, to say the least, one endowed with the faculty of love, and assuredly Ebenezer Jones was one, as the poems 'A Crisis,' 'Repose in Love,' 'Happy Sadness,' &c., show; but then these outpourings were not addressed to Caroline Atherstone, and to one who did not requite his passion, but who passionately loved another man—a man to whom Ebenezer was very dear; and she soon afterwards died. This had the greatest effect on his life—hence I have been compelled to glance at it. The failure of the book admits of discussion, and, indeed, demands it; for I have lately seen it said in print in an influential journal that Ebenezer Jones's long period of silence argues that the neglect of his book by his contemporaries was perfectly justifiable, inasmuch as the poetic faculty within him could not have been a genuine endowment at all to be so easily snuffed out. And certainly—although a poet whose gift is dramatic may, and sometimes does, from lack of opportunity, or from laziness or distracting interferences, leave his faculty unworked, as we see in the case of Charles Wells—it does seem unaccountable that a lyricist—a man whose every outpouring is assumed to come from what Jones himself would have called the "naked impulse to sing"—should remain almost silent for seventeen years.

For, although, as has been said before, it is not true that Ebenezer Jones put poetry on one side altogether, but intermittently (during his stay in Jersey, for instance), turned to it, and, moreover, wrote a lovely poem within a week or two of his death, it is true that, when he found his book neglected, he threw his main energies into very different channels. To tender an explanation of the anomaly seems, therefore, required from one who would maintain, not only that his lyric impulse was genuine, but that he himself was a manly fellow, deserving of that sympathy which I am asking for him. Here is my explanation, then: it was not any lack of genuine lyric impulse, and certainly it was not any lack of manly perseverance and "pluck" that silenced him. "*Homo sum*"—the motto he had chosen for himself—was constantly on his lips, and it was quite in the right place there. No more obstinate will, perhaps, ever confronted the world than his. No bolder heart than his ever beat in the breast of poet or of soldier. This, indeed, is precisely the reason why it seems necessary to write about him at a juncture when some attention is being directed to him,—not because he was a fine poet—but because "King Circumstance"—always bowless with regard to poets, and always blind—was more cruel to him than to any other man of equal gifts—more cruel than to Burns even, or Chatterton, or John Clare, or the brothers Bethune. It is because of this that history should be told, and because—although trampled on by "the city that slew him,"—he never asked for quarter, and never gave in. Though he was a rarely gifted poet, his chief characteristic was not his poetry, but his obstinacy and "pluck." And yet the notion has got abroad that he was abject, vanquished, and cowed. If he were still alive, he would rather that his manliness were defended than his poetry—a thousand times rather.

Before ever he published, his brother, Sumner, through Thomas Hood and others, had some slight contact with the literary world, and wished to introduce him there. His answer was—"No; not till I have done something. I will meet no man save as his peer." Even to Death himself he only yielded inch by inch, and even at last never owned that he was really "giving in." Whenever a friend went to see him on his death-bed (for he was dying in Paulton Square), he was always met by a dauntless face shining from the pillow—a glance from an eye as steely bright as ever—a voice to which not even the King of Terrors could bring a quaver—to which, indeed, nothing could bring a quaver save the tenderness of those around his bed. "Note the grasp of my hand," he would say; "it is only here I fail"; and he would point defiantly to his chest, where those dreadful fore-notings of the death-rattle told their tale. What, then, on the failure of his book, made him yield as a claimant for the poetic crown?

It was nothing but this: the shock of disgust he felt on coming into actual contact with his ideal world—the world of literature. The way to daunt the dauntless is to shatter his ideals. It was not so much that he smarted under the puny satire of those who reviewed him in the newspapers, but he sent presentation copies of the book—which he must have known showed the writer to have at least as incisive an intellect as any man then at work in *belles lettres*—to those who filled the high places in literature; and with the exception of generous notes from Barry Cornwall and Mr. R. H. Horne, and another or two, not a word of encouragement came to him—not a word of generous sympathy. No doubt he was wrong to feel it in this way; no doubt a little more of the true dramatic faculty—the power of putting himself in another's place—a little more experience even—would have enabled him to realize the true state of the case; would have taught him that all men—poets and the rest—find life so big, and their own power of living it so limited, that they must let pass unheeded much that they would arrest and examine and enjoy if the stream were not quite so strong and not quite so wide.

Lord Houghton, I believe, was sympathetic; but he always is. Perhaps he would have been more actively so had he known the conditions under which the book was produced. He spoke with enthusiasm of the exquisite little poem called 'The Face.' Indeed, there is a lovely poem of his own, with a kindred motif, in his 'Poems of Many Years,' beginning

They seemed to those who saw them meet.

But Lord Houghton did nothing to aid the book in its struggle—nobody did.

Among the various groups into which men may be divided there are men for whom everybody does everything, and men for whom, as Mr. Sawyer says, "nobody does nothing." Some one sent a copy of the book to the late Lord Lytton, and he gave Ebenezer the same advice which Coleridge once indirectly proffered to Mr. Tennyson, to "stick to Pope and write in heroic couplets." This is always a useful formula when a young poet sends you a presentation copy. Before we blame Ebenezer Jones for unreasoning petulance let us consider for a moment his actual position and relation to the world of letters. It was quite peculiar—it was like no one else's. He had been—by the Calvinistic fire-ring of Gehenna which encompassed his childhood—shut completely in from men,—from literary delights,—and, as far as that could be, from Nature herself, who could speak to him only from behind an iron mask of red-hot bars. Suddenly literature came to him, a "bright Oriphiel," from a Paradise he had scarcely before dared to visit even in his dreams. From the day when the perorations of Carlyle first aroused his childish soul he looked upon literature as the Holy Land which some day, after hard pilgrimage, he might reach. He began to write himself; but it was not till his eighteenth year that he sent to *Tait's Magazine* his 'Ode to Thought.' That was a momentous day both for him and Sumner. It is pathetic to think of it. Scratching away at the desk during

twelve hours a day, with aching backs and throbbing heads, and eyes bleared and yearning for some change from the hideous symmetry of those eternal ledger lines, they both had waited patiently yet palpitantly for the appearance of the poem. "Would it appear?" that was the question over which they pondered as their pens trembled over the invoices in that real "Mammon's Cave" of Mincing Lane where no "Sir Guyon" enters. The weeks flew by. At last, Sumner one day (this was at the end of August, 1838) slipped out of the counting-house, and got a copy of the *Magazine* just out. He went up to Ebenezer's desk and whispered, "It's in." Ebenezer clutched the magazine, and dived down to the warehouse basement. He was so blest that the cellars seemed flushed with light. But it was he who had taken the light there himself,—or rather it was the sober-coloured *Tait*. When he got to his desk, he wrote on an office-slip, "I feel as if I should do now," and passed it to Sumner, who was suffering from a painful sense of eyes too shiny and cheeks too flushed for so "good" an establishment. As those two walked home to the Old Kent Road on that evening, Ebenezer confided to Sumner for the first time his hope that he would yet one day emancipate himself by his pen (!) from city thralldom, and not himself alone. Even Fool was to share the blessings to flow from that emancipating pen. "Fool" was their faithful dog (whom they had named after the faithful Fool in 'King Lear,' who followed his master in misfortune), and who was prized by them both, as being the last relic of the Canonbury home. "Would you," he said to Sumner, "kindly see after Fool, while I stay at home and write? I can manage it out of the sleeping hours." This being agreed to and settled, from that day forth, after his daily twelve hours at the city desk, he set himself to bend Night to his fixed resolve of entering this fairy land of literature and art, where there was no struggling, like this disgusting commercial warfare—where there were no envyings, no uncharitableness, nothing sordid, and whence the ready hand would come to lift the fledgeling bard longing to breathe

An ampler ether—a diviner air.

During the office slavery he held in his imagination this ideal world, whence had come to him in his cruel darkness these noble and generous thoughts, shed, "as the oak sheds its leaves," by men whose distinguishing characteristics were simply that they were noble and generous. Belief in the brotherhood of Art was to him a religion. A poem had only to be good, he thought, to be hailed by all those who had also produced good things, and by the whole literary world besides. This was his dream—that there was a brotherhood in Art: the reception of his book showed him what he believed to be the reality of this matter—that there is indeed a brotherhood of Art, but that its members are members of a still greater brotherhood—the great brotherhood of the Dead. In a word, his ideals had been crushed for ever.

After the book had fairly failed he never alluded to it, not even to the brother who was his companion in the battle. On one occasion he did, however. He took it up, laid it down again, and said, "There is nothing here to track me by, and no one can say that I ever made any bid for support," and assuredly no one ever could.

Disgusted with literature, not cowed by failure, he turned to politics, as we have seen. His enthusiasm for Carlyle had not at all abated, and he went to live in Paulton Square, Chelsea, chiefly because he felt Chelsea to be classic ground. Here it was that afterwards the consumptive tendencies in his constitution decisively showed themselves, and here in the company chiefly of a beloved child, his niece, he prepared to take Death,—not "miserably," as some have mistakenly supposed, but as he should be taken by a man who knows, as they who have really lived always know, that neither in this world nor the next is there anything to fear save ourselves. Yet he did not die

in London; no man should die in London if he can possibly crawl away into the country. Death must come very sweetly, one would think, when the last sight for the eyes is the waving shadows of the trees on the bedroom walls, the last sounds for the ears the lowing of the cattle in the sweet meadows, or the chirping of the birds in the orchard. At the last he felt such an irresistible yearning for these things that he had to be removed to the house of a relative at Brentwood, in Essex. There, in a week or two, he died, and is buried in the rural churchyard of Shenfield, about a mile from Brentwood. The sounds he most loved were the watchdog's bark from the farm across still fields at night, and in spring mornings the song of the thrush. And no doubt they are beloved sounds; and both are to be heard to perfection in Shenfield churchyard.

After life's fitful fever, he sleeps well.

Whether his book is dead, or whether it will ever be resuscitated, is a question of no importance to him, but of some importance, I think, to the student of our literature. Originality, however faulty, however bizarre, is more precious than any amount of stale symmetry. His great desire was to be—in his own oft-repeated phrase—a "poetical thinker." If he failed there he failed indeed; for in many of his poems every grace is made to succumb to this earnest desire to give naked expression to what he used to call "naked thoughts." Did he fail? I think not.

In deep and passionate sympathy with the various soul of man he surely had scarcely a superior among his contemporaries. He had not the mere dry intellect of Mary, perhaps, nor had he that metaphysical instinct which set her—so young a child—beating against the bars, and then threw her shuddering agast to fall back into Calvinism—into anything that could coop her in from such flights as those. He had not the poetical thinker's highest gift and sorest curse—the instinct which makes him actualize what to the mere metaphysician are foggy dreams: yet for all that he probed some very deep recesses of the human soul.

The failure of Ebenezer's book affected Sumner's future career no less than Ebenezer's own. So great had been Ebenezer's personality that Sumner, like the others, had looked up to him as the genius of the family. But Sumner was in no way idle. He wrote dramas, lyrics, sonnets—all of them full of the noblest aspirations and tenderest feelings. He, as I have hinted, shook off the Calvinistic chains earlier and more easily than Ebenezer. His temperament was more genial.

There is a beautiful sonnet by Lady Charlotte Elliot, which so exactly gives the way in which his soul found peace that it might be headed 'Sumner Jones.' If I were to write three columns upon the subject I could not render this struggling young poet half so well as this sonnet does in fourteen lines:—

I sought to keep the way of life—'twas hard;  
Beneath me yawned the darkness, wide and deep,  
I saw the blinding mists around me sweep,  
And spectral forms of fear the pathway barred,  
My footsteps to bewilder and retard.  
No help was left, save on my knees to creep  
Close to the crumbling edge, and cling and weep,  
With weary limbs, and hands all bruised and scared.  
For this, methought, was faith—with desperate trust  
To grasp the worn-out relics of a creed:  
Beneath the strain they shivered into dust.  
I reeled and fell—oh where?—upon the breast  
Of Love divine, and there, at peace indeed,  
My soul in heavenly darkness lies at rest.

Here are some lines from an 'Ode to Imagination,' printed for private circulation in 1843, the year of the appearance of Ebenezer's volume. See how he writes about those sunny days of his childhood, when he got away from the Calvinistic bondage of his home, and revelled for a brief space with Nature. The influence of Wordsworth is, of course, apparent; yet there is something here which is not to be found in Wordsworth:—

Greatly I triumph'd thro' my morn of time,  
The winds of Heaven were retuned to me!  
All pleasures ripen'd to their topping prime,  
I seiz'd, and dealt with irresistibly!  
Ever constraining Nature to impart  
Soul-blest employ,

Large was my sense of ecstasy, my heart  
Stood up in joy!  
I bore me boldly in the general dance,  
My high delight  
Shot vividly the rapt acquiring glance;  
I sigh'd myself into a secret trance  
With the still night—  
Still night—how still!  
Just heard the constant rill  
Tinkling far-down beneath the wood-clothed hill—  
My very breathing being seem'd to flow  
Beside me, and I listen'd, crouching low.

And here from the same fine ode is a lovely English picture:—

I rose an hour 'ere morn;  
I saw the day of my departure born:  
From lattice, ivy-screen'd,  
Into the early quiet forth I lean'd—  
The dim-red orb completed its ascent—  
Noiselessly down I went;  
I lifted the door-latch;  
The young birds twitter'd in the neighbouring thatch;  
I threw wide ope the door,  
It swung as it had never swung before;  
I paused—through I past,  
I closed it soft and fast,  
I look'd up at the sleeping casements there,  
And breathing over all one fervent prayer,  
I left my father's house:—  
I leapt the orchard-brook,  
Leaping, new strength I took,  
Forthright I went the willow'd marshes through,  
I shouted, I halloo'd,  
I brush'd grass moist morn-dew'd,  
I made unequal speed,  
I stoop'd, I pick'd a reed,  
The reed before me on my way I blew,  
Trumpeting of the things that I would do!

And, again:—

But passing forth with thee  
Into the mystery  
Of every hour—O thou,  
I lov'd with reverent bow,  
Before revealings of the infant-mind,  
Or the meanest Hind,  
Who for a moment pausing at his plough,  
His hand uprais'd to his sweat-beaded brow,  
In the fields uncovered,  
Just turns his head,  
With the last motion of a steer stall-fed,  
Round o'er familiar furrow, hedge, and bough.  
The same yet not the same;  
Not that the scene doth swim  
In a vision-mist to him,  
But all his frame is fill'd up to the brim,  
With the sense of what he never saw before,  
With the feeling which he never shall feel more.  
Then when the west is fir'd,  
From his whistling mates retir'd,  
With full heart strangely wrong;  
He opens the gate on which a boy he swung;  
He leans, he lays along,  
He lists the copple-song;  
It pours into him what he cannot tell,  
And his rough breast begins to heave and swell;  
With soft'ning eye he sees the Evening Star  
Shine, first to him, a solace from afar;  
Responsive he perceives  
His spirit, to the spirit-rustling leaves;  
Mournfully round him float  
In the deep'ning twilight, memories long remote;  
With gently-paining sting,  
And tender lingering,  
All work so with him that he cannot quell  
The big slow tears that rise.  
Unwonted to his eyes,  
But there himself he yields,  
'Mid the hush'd star-lit fields,  
As the still hours roll,  
To all that haunts his soul—  
And there, henceforth a light  
Other than shone by night,  
Staggering stands up, weeping unspeakable!

And why did a poet who could write like this never publish a line? I naturally put this question, and this was his answer: "During Ebenezer's lifetime nothing would have induced me to bring out a volume of poems. I not only saw how he had been served; but if success were certain, that alone would have obliged me to desist, for I loved him as men—saving by women—are very rarely loved in this world, and thank God he died knowing it. It was a solace to me to think and feel that I was even more unknown than he was, and certain to be equally forgotten."

Perhaps if City slavery and the sorrow that comes therefrom chasten men to this point, it is fortunate, after all, for a man to be a City slave. Not that I for my part think that a poet of his tender nature loses anything by refraining to publish poetry. To temperaments such as his, where the affections are all in all, what comfort can there be in publishing poetry and entering a struggle for life as bitter as that of the City?

Poetry has no right to exist—or rather cannot exist—unless it comes straight from the heart; and, coming thence, it should be considered sacred as the first kiss of love. What Tasso says about a budding rose being more beautiful the less it shows itself

applies to the sweetest poetry more than to roses. The delight of producing it and of watching the kindling face and brightening eye of the sympathetic friend to whom it is read—a man must be hungry for enjoyment indeed who is not satisfied with these. Of course, if a man writes poetry to do the world good, as Ebenezer did, the case is a different one; but he rarely does that. He secretes his poetry as the aphid secretes its honey-dew—because he feels a delight in secreting. What especial need is there to offer it to people who do not want it.

There are, of course, but two reasons for a poet appealing to the outside world—profit or fame. As to profit, "a friend of mine in commerce"—a buxom friend, in the walnut trade—assured me the other day in confidence, that "if she was only lucky in selecting her 'prickles' [peds] of nuts at Covent Garden, she could make thirty bob a week" in the streets, "to say nothin' o' tuckin' in a goodish lot o' nuts herself." How many poets are making as much a week, I wonder, by selling their verses? And as to fame—to get much of that there must be a deal of what Dr. Johnson called making "your nonsense suit their nonsense." Among the thousands of readers of the 'Proverbial Philosophy,' how many have even heard of Dobell?

It is well for a man with poetic instincts to ask himself before he troubles the world with his songs whether the road to fame is not too sharp for truly poetic feet.

"Let the poet knock about in the world," says, in effect, a well-known writer, "and he will soon be cured."

The world does, indeed, cure a poet of his sensitivity, but it does so after the fashion in which a certain groom once advised me to cure a horse lamed of one foot, that I wanted to get rid of: "You've only got to prick his other feet; prick them all round, and he'll be as right as a trivet; he won't know which foot to limp on if they're all sore alike."

Not that Sumner could help producing now and then, but he destroyed as fast as he produced, and on the death of Ebenezer he may be said to have ceased to produce altogether. I have a poem by him called 'A Vision of Burns,' which is so full of fine qualities,—imagination, wit, humour,—that I had hoped to find room for it here, but it is far too long. THEODORE WATTS.

### Literary Gossip.

THE three volumes which Mr. Black's new novel, 'MacLeod of Dare,' fills will present one feature which is quite an innovation on the time-honoured style in which novels priced at a guinea and a half appear. Several of his artist-friends have turned from their ordinary work and have each presented the novelist with a drawing to illustrate his story, and these woodcuts by various hands will appear in the three-volume edition. In gratitude Mr. Black dedicates his book to its illustrators, Messrs. T. Faed, R.A., J. E. Millais, R.A., J. Pettie, R.A., W. Q. Orchardson, R.A., P. Graham, A.R.A., J. A. Aitken, G. H. Boughton, T. Graham, C. Hunter, C. E. Johnson, J. M'Whirter, and F. Powell. The novel will be published on the 1st of next month.

MRS. GILL'S 'Six Months in Ascension' will be issued by Mr. Murray in November. Mrs. Gill accompanied her husband on his expedition to Ascension last year, which was undertaken for the purpose of observing and recording the Opposition of Mars. Mrs. Gill's book will be an unscientific account of a successful scientific expedition.

PROF. J. R. SEELEY'S 'Life of Stein,' which we have more than once spoken of, is expected

to appear in two or three weeks. It treats of German history between the death of Frederick the Great and the French Revolution of 1830. The treatment is summary up to the Campaign of Jena and again after the death of Hardenberg in 1822, but a full history of Prussia from 1806 to 1822 is given. Views of Austrian and general German history are also given, and the Vienna settlement, so far as it concerns Germany, is discussed at length. With the biography of Stein are included biographies on a smaller scale of Scharnhorst, Hardenberg, Schön, Niebuhr, and others.

MR. GALENGA, after studying the various phases of the Eastern Question at Constantinople and elsewhere, is taking a holiday in England, and is busily engaged upon a work he has had in view for some time on Pope Pius the Ninth and King Victor Emmanuel, and the war between Church and State in Italy. It will be entitled 'The Pope and the King,' and will be issued next month by Messrs. Samuel Tinsley & Co.

THE same publishers' list of announcements for the coming season includes a volume of 'Plays for Young People,' words by the Rev. J. Barmby, Music by the Rev. T. Rogers, Precentor of Durham; 'The Byron Birthday Book,' edited by James Burrows; and the following novels and tales: 'How He Won Her,' by Mrs. Eiloart; 'A Tantalus Cup,' by Mrs. H. Bennett Edwards; 'The Black Squire, or, a Lady's Four Wishes,' by Davus; 'Cupid and the Sphinx,' by Harford Flemming; 'The Lady of Treferne,' by Harriet S. Hill; 'A Mountain Daisy,' by Emily Grace Harding; 'Violet Mortimer,' by Frances Noble; 'Born to Blush Unseen,' by T. Edgar Pemberton; 'Walter Forbes,' by "A. A."; 'The Broken Trust,' by Maxwell Grey; 'My Friend and My Wife,' by Henry James Gibbs; and 'A Volume of Stories for Christmas,' by the author of 'The Wynnes' and 'Aggesden Vicarage.'

MR. WILLIAM WHITE, sub-librarian of Trinity College, Cambridge, has lately ascertained the identity of about 200 leaves of an early service book which had formed the part of the binding and fly-leaves of volumes of MSS. and printed books in the College Library. With the assistance of Mr. Roy, of the British Museum, he has made out that 100 of the leaves form part of the first volume, and upwards of eighty leaves belong to the second volume of the Salisbury Antiphonar, printed at Paris 1519-1520, and hitherto supposed to be unique. This remarkable find includes a leaf wanting in the Museum copy, and it is hoped that the authorities of Trinity will allow it to be copied in facsimile. Vol. I. of the Museum copy was obtained from the College of St. Cuthbert, Durham, in 1856, and the second volume was found in 1855, among a number of old books in a loft over a stable in St. John's Wood.

NINE courses of open lectures in Moral Sciences are announced at Cambridge this term. Mr. Venn at Caius will discuss advanced logic under the names of Bacon, Whewell, and Jevons; Mr. Verdon at St. John's lectures on Kant's Critique; Mr. Ward, of Trinity, on Psychology; Mr. Foxwell, of St. John's, will take the history of Economic Science from Quesnay to Bastiat.

M. JAMES DARNESTETER, Assistant-Pro-

fessor of Zend at the École des Hautes Études in Paris, is now in England, entrusted with a mission by the French Government to study MSS. in the various libraries in the kingdom relating to Zend literature.

THE Chair of Greek in Queen's College, Belfast, is vacant by the resignation of Dr. M'Douall, who retires through failing health. It is expected that the vacancy will be filled by the transfer of a professor from one of the other two Queen's Colleges, and that the chairs of Greek and Latin in one of these colleges will be amalgamated, in accordance with the recommendation of the recent Commission.

THE eastern unsettlement threatens to create yet another nuisance, a new European language. The Albanians, in asserting their nationality, claim that Albanian shall be the official language of their country. The Albanians have two chief languages, the Tosk and the Guegh, and they cannot read them when other people write them, so they use Greek for written communications. Some years ago we mentioned that the Bible Society had published a Tosk Testament, which no one could read, so they printed a Guegh Testament, in another new character, and set up schools to teach people to read it.

THE Bristol University College counts among its professors this term the wife of the principal, who has undertaken to teach political economy to the students in that department. The head master of Clifton College, who has taken a leading part in the formation of the new College, has just made a fresh appeal to the citizens for support to the foundation. About 25,000*l.* was raised two years ago, since which period the treasurer has received no new subscription of any moment. At that time three donations of 500*l.* each were given, with a promise that each should be increased to 1,000*l.* if one or two individuals or firms in Bristol would give the like amount. The offer has not been met, and the 1,500*l.*, it is feared, has been lost. While the Yorkshire College of Science at Leeds has in the last two years increased its funds by about 40,000*l.*, the Bristol College has stood still. Engineering students of the latter institution are now enabled to attend as articulated pupils during half the year at engineering firms in the neighbourhood, while the other half is spent at the University.

DR. T. G. HAKE has a new volume of poems in the press; the title is 'Legends of the Morrow.'

GANESH BHIKAJI GUNJIKAR, of Bombay, is about to publish in Gujarati, Marathi, Hindustani and Canarese, three of Mr. Smiles's books, namely 'Self Help,' 'Character,' and 'Thrift.' The first of these works has already been translated into Pali.

MR. JULIAN HAWTHORNE will commence a fairy tale, entitled 'Rumpty Dudget's Tower,' in the November number of the *St. Nicholas* magazine.

THE system of lectures recently established under the auspices of King's College, for the higher education of women, has now assumed a permanent character: the classes are to be conducted in the same neighbourhood where they were commenced, at 5, Observatory Avenue, Kensington. During the first two terms, when the system was regarded as tenta-

tive, the entries numbered from 500 to 600. A regular examination was held at Midsummer with satisfactory results; a class-list was issued, and certificates granted. The committee have now ventured on a larger scheme, in which all the chief elements of a liberal education are represented: Scripture, church history, logic and moral philosophy, ancient and modern languages, and history, mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, physics, physiology, and hygiene; botany, harmony, and drawing. If this scheme be well worked out, it will promote a useful object; and it is hoped that it may lead to the establishment of a regular college for ladies in Kensington. The ensuing session will be opened by an inaugural address on the first day of the term, Monday, the 14th inst., at 11 A.M., to be delivered by Canon Barry, at the Vestry Hall, Kensington.

A NEW Christmas Annual, edited by Mr. Henry Pottinger Stephens, will be issued by Messrs. Chapman & Hall on the 20th November. The contributors include Messrs. F. C. Burnand, John Hollingshead, Sir Henry Pottinger, Hawley Smart, and Violet Fane, and the illustrations are by Messrs. Linley Sambourne and J. Pilotell.

MESSRS. CASSELL, PETER & GALPIN have arranged to issue the English edition of the Duc de Broglie's new work, 'Le Secret du Roi,' which embraces the secret correspondence of Louis XV. with his various diplomatic agents, 1752-1774. The translation will be published in two volumes at an early date.

THE author of 'Patty' is bringing out a new edition, revised and rewritten, of 'Elinor Dryden.'

SOME extracts from the correspondence of Miss Ferrier, Sir W. Scott's friend, and the author of 'Destiny' and 'Marriage,' will appear in an article upon her and her writings which will be published in *Temple Bar* next month.

MESSRS. HARDWICKE & BOGUE's announcements for the season include 'The Dramatic List: a Record of the Performances of Living Actors and Actresses of the British Stage,' by C. E. Pascoe; 'Pleasant Days in Pleasant Places: Notes of Home Tours,' by F. Walford, M.A.; 'Common Mind Troubles,' by Dr. J. Mortimer-Granville; 'My Day with the Hounds, and other Stories,' by Fiuch Mason; and 'London in 1879,' by Herbert Fry, illustrated with bird's-eye views of the principal streets.

THE syllabus of lectures for the first-half session of the newly-formed branch of the Manchester Literary Club—called the Bibliographical Section—has just been issued. The first lecture, announced for October 8th, is 'On the Old Library of Leigh Grammar School, Lancashire,' Mr. J. E. Bailey being the lecturer. On November 5th Mr. W. E. A. Axon will read a paper 'On the Distribution of Publications printed at the National Cost.'

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON will publish soon a work by Dr. Cuyler of Brooklyn, under the title of 'Pointed Papers for the Christian Life.'

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

'A copy is offered for sale at Berlin at 2,400 marks of the well-known work on 'The Uniforms

of the Prussian Army,' with illustrations by Prof. Menzel. Only thirty copies of this work were produced, seven of these being purchased by the Emperor of Russia, and the remainder by the Emperor of Germany, the Cadet schools, the royal theatres, &c."

PROF. MÜLLER of Tübingen, the author of the 'Leben Kaiser Wilhelms,' has in the press a 'Life of Moltke, 1800-1878.' In dealing with the campaigns in which Moltke took part, he does not enter into full descriptions of the battles, &c., but goes more deeply into questions of military tactics and other theoretical points. An English edition will be published simultaneously with the German by Mr. W. Swan Sonnenschein.

THE French publications of the week include the speeches pronounced at the Centenary of Rousseau by MM. Marcou and E. Hamel; the following novels: 'L'Amie,' by Henry Gréville, and 'La Dévouée,' by Léon Hennique; two historical works: 'Histoire de la Guerre de Trente Ans,' by E. Charveriat, and the 'Histoire Contemporaine de l'Espagne,' series 2, vol. i., Régences de Christine et d'Espartero, 1833-1843, by M. Gustave Hubbard; and the second volume of the collected edition of the poetry of M. Théodore de Banville, containing 'Les Exilés.'

THE death is announced of Prof. Julius Müller, of Halle, the author of the well-known 'Christian Doctrine of Sin,' and the brother of Otfried Müller.

MR. F. W. HAYDON informs us that the date of a letter from Sir W. Scott, which was called in question in some letters we published from Sir Walter's godson, Mr. F. S. Haydon, is incorrectly given in Haydon's 'Correspondence and Table-Talk,' vol. i. p. 346.

## SCIENCE

*Conferences held in connexion with the Special Loan Collection of Scientific Apparatus at South Kensington, 1876. (Chapman & Hall) Free Evening Lectures delivered in connexion with the Special Loan Collection of Scientific Apparatus at South Kensington, 1876. (Same publishers.)*

THE best, one may perhaps say the only good thing about the late exhibition of scientific apparatus was that it furnished a number of distinguished men with an opportunity to give us their ideas on important theoretical points, or to elucidate passages less known in the history of experimental philosophy. Their discourses and lectures are now published in the same form in which they have been delivered. The conferences—discourses would have been a more appropriate designation—differ from the evening lectures chiefly in their being less formal, consisting in some cases of only a short description of some one or the other of the instruments exhibited. Among the evening lectures those 'On Dalton's Apparatus,' by Prof. Roscoe, 'On Faraday's Apparatus,' by Prof. Tyndall, and 'On Air and Airs,' by the Right Hon. Lyon Playfair, deserve to be mentioned specially, both on account of the interest the subjects treated possess and of the lucidity of their treatment. The last named is a succinct narrative of the phases through which the inquiry into the properties of our atmosphere had passed, beginning with the purely speculative notions of the Greeks, making, en

passant, the amusing assertion that Aristotle was the father of chemistry, since he taught that all things were composed of earth, air, fire, and water; mentioning the true conception the Saracen philosopher Alhazen had of the nature of air; enumerating in somewhat greater detail the work of Galileo and Torricelli, and concluding with the labours of Black on fixed air and oxygen, and of Cavendish on hydrogen and nitrogen.

The contents of the two volumes of conferences are of more varied character, and the treatment is unequal. Prof. Eccher's communication on the instruments from Italy is unusually interesting. The evidence he adduces for proving Galileo's claim to be the inventor of the thermometer appears conclusive, and he succeeds equally well in showing that the great Florentine experimentalist had constructed a telescope without knowing more of what had been done in Flanders than the meagre news that an instrument had been contrived by means of which distant objects could be brought nearer to the eye. We also learn here that the inventor of the barometer proper, i.e., of the instrument which indicates the variations in the pressure of the atmosphere, was Alfonso Borelli, one of the original members of the short-lived Accademia del Cimento. At the time when we noticed the physical section of the collection of scientific apparatus, we pointed out how erroneous it was to affix to Torricelli's tube a scale without informing the public that this was a later addition. We owe to Borelli also the suggestion of the experiments on the compressibility of water. The view that ice was rarefied, not condensed, water was first enunciated by Galileo. From the fact that ice was lighter than water he deduced the conclusion that it must be bulkier, and special experiments made by the academy on the freezing of water in metal shells established the fact that water increases in volume in the process of freezing. The statement that the first magneto-electrical machine was constructed by Nobili and Antinori some time before Faraday's similar achievement is certainly astonishing; it ought not, if incorrect, to remain uncontradicted.

Sir Joseph Whitworth's discourse on linear measurement and Sir W. Thomson's on electrical measures are comprehensive and withal simple descriptions of the wonderfully precise instruments employed. In the latter communication the announcement is incidentally made that Cavendish's unpublished papers, bearing on questions connected with electrical measurements, will shortly be edited by Prof. Clerk-Maxwell, in whose opinion they are of the greatest interest.

There are some other good articles, such as M. Daubrée's 'On Synthetical Experiments bearing upon Geological Questions,' Mr. Bramwell's 'On Prime Movers,' and one or two more; but the rest are extremely feeble. Prof. Frankland's Introductory Address to the Chemical Section is nothing but a slight expansion of what the Catalogue states. Dr. Russell's description of the apparatus for gas analysis, which he devised in conjunction with Prof. Williamson, cannot possibly interest any save a few chemists, and these have had this subject before them at the Chemical Society quite often enough. Sir Joseph Hooker describes the new physiological laboratory in Kew Gardens; it has four walls and a roof above, and work will perhaps be done in it some day,

but at present there are no fittings and no money to get them.

Like everything connected with the late Loan Collection, these volumes show carelessness and negligence. In numerous places the type has dropped out, causing, in the case of figures, great inconvenience. Mistakes abound as much as in the Catalogue, though the editor has taken two years to bring out these books. We read of a "lobe" in which Dumas determined the density of vapours; the temperature in hospitals is recommended to reach 180°; the discourse on Time Measurers was delivered by Messrs. E. Dent "& Co.," that is, by two speakers, if not more, at the same time; phosphoric pentoxide is expressed by the formula PO<sub>5</sub>, though side by side with this stands As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> to symbolize arsenic pentoxide; we are told that metals can be "lignified."

Altogether this publication looks like a collection of mere newspaper reprints, for it gives the formal vote of thanks the chairman proposed to each lecturer in every case over again, and it records all the trivial remarks which people speaking without preparation are apt to make in discussions. We wonder whether these volumes are the last sign of the Science Loan Collection of 1876!

## DOES THE CORONA WAX AND WANE WITH SUN'S SPOTS?

ON my return to England after observing the recent eclipse, I was somewhat surprised to find that the reports which had appeared in the English newspapers had described the corona as very much fainter than the coronas observed during the eclipses of 1870 and 1871. Judging from my remembrance of the corona of 1870, which I observed with a fairly clear sky at Villasmunda in Sicily, I should have said that the corona of this year was decidedly brighter than that of 1870; and I believe that Prof. Young and Mr. Penrose, both of whom observed the eclipse of 1870 in Spain, are of the same opinion: the photographs also seem to tell the same tale—at all events as to the lower regions of the corona, say up to a height of 15° above the Sun's limb.

Mr. Brothers's Syracuse photograph shows a greater extension of the corona than any of the photographs which have been taken during the recent eclipse, but there is ample evidence to show that the height of the corona in the equatorial regions as seen by the naked eye\* was much greater during the recent eclipse than in 1870. Newcomb, Langley, and Abbe, all three, I believe, estimated that the corona extended to a distance of twelve solar diameters in the region of the solar equator, and I have seen numerous drawings giving an extension of two and three solar diameters to the corona in the equatorial regions, whereas I know of no such drawings made during the eclipses of 1870 and 1871.

As to the relative brightness of the lower parts of the corona in 1871 and 1878, I am inclined, from an examination of the photographic evidence, to conclude that up to a height of 20° or 25° the corona of 1871 did not differ very greatly in brightness from that of 1878. There is a considerable element of uncertainty in estimating the brightness of objects photographed from the density of the photographic action; but I think we may feel sure that the corona of 1871 was not

\* It seems, therefore, that the corona of 1878 was brighter in the lower regions and again in the higher parts of the equatorial regions, while the corona of 1870 was probably brighter in an intermediate region to the north and south as well as to the east and west of the Sun. Judging by Mr. Brothers's photograph, the intermediate region of greater brightness extended from a height of 15° or 20° up to a height of about 45° above the limb. It should be remembered that Mr. Brothers's photograph was taken with an exposure of only seven seconds, and that none of the photographs taken during the recent eclipse, not even Dr. Draper's, which was taken with an instrument of larger angular aperture, and was exposed during nearly the whole of totality, show traces of the corona extending to a distance of a solar diameter.

ten times as bright as that of 1878, as I see that Mr. Lockyer reported. Indeed, it seems to be rather more probable that the corona of 1878 was a little the brighter of the two. The most striking part of the photographic evidence as to the relative brightness of the 1871 and 1878 coronas may be thus shortly stated.

The photographs taken by Dr. Brackett during the recent eclipse with a six-inch telescope of rather more than seven feet focal length, seemed, as far as I could judge, to be about equally dense with the photographs of similar exposure of Lord Lindsay's and Col. Tennant's series taken in India in 1871. I speak with some caution, as I have not had an opportunity of comparing the negatives side by side; but the density of the Indian negatives is very well impressed on my mind, as I spent more than a year in making out and cataloguing the details which are visible upon them. It must be borne in mind that during the Indian eclipse the Sun, as seen from the two photographic stations, was at a lower altitude than as seen from Denver, Dr. Brackett's station; but while the angular aperture of Dr. Brackett's instrument was less than one in fourteen, Lord Lindsay's and Col. Tennant's cameras were of four inches aperture, and about thirty inches focus, or one in seven and a half,—that is, in the two Indian cameras, which were of similar construction, the pencil of light falling on an element of the plate was nearly four times as intense as the pencil falling on a similar element in Dr. Brackett's telescope camera. We have no data, of course, for comparing the *diactinism* of the Indian and Colorado atmospheres; but we may, I think, feel justified in asserting that, as far as the evidence derived from the photographs of the 1870, 1871, and 1878 eclipses goes, the corona does not wax and wane with Sun spots—in fact, the corona with by far the greatest equatorial extension is found at a period when there are hardly any spots upon the Sun's disc; and it should also be remarked that the difference between the coronas of 1870 and 1871 does not at all correspond with the development of Sun spots at the two periods.\*

Secondly, I see that it has been stated that the corona seen during the recent eclipse was remarkable for the absence of bright lines in its spectrum. It is perfectly true that none of the observers who made use of spectroscopes without slits saw the bright rings corresponding to the 1474, and the hydrogen lines which Mr. Lockyer and Prof. Respighi described as having been visible during the Indian eclipse; but Prof. Young, making use of an ordinary spectroscope, that is one provided with a slit, saw the 1474 line very distinctly, and traced it to a considerable altitude above the Sun's limb. The rings were carefully searched for on the present occasion with various kinds of instruments. I occupied myself for ten or fifteen seconds after the commencement of totality in gazing at the corona with a direct vision prism held in front of the eye, but I could see no rings upon the band of colour into which the light of the corona was spread out. Prof. Rockwood spent nearly the whole of totality in searching for the monochromatic images with a binocular instrument, with which if the rings had been visible at all they would certainly have been seen; but not a trace of them was to be detected, though Prof. Young, who was observing within twenty yards of Prof. Rockwood with a Rutherford grating of 17,000 lines to the inch, and a spectroscope with a slit, saw the 1474 line with ease, and traced it to a height of 20' from the Sun's limb.

This strikingly illustrates the great difference between a pure and an impure spectrum. The green line in Prof. Young's spectrum was really no brighter than the green image in Prof. Rock-

wood's field of view, but in the latter case the green image of the corona was overlapped and drowned out of view by other images corresponding to adjacent wave lengths. The object of a slit is to prevent such a drowning out of bright or dark images. Every one who has used a spectroscope must be familiar with the fact that narrowing the slit decreases the brightness of the spectrum, while at the same time the visibility of the bright or dark lines is increased; it will consequently be evident that the best conditions for seeing bright lines will not be the best conditions for obtaining a spectrum which will be bright enough to photograph. With a spectroscopic camera of such dispersion that the images of the corona are spread out on the photographic plate to a distance of five or six times the diameter of the corona, it is obvious that the impurity of the spectrum when no slit is used will be very great, but the brightness of the band of light—it is hardly proper to call it a spectrum—will be only eight or ten times less than the brightness of an image of the corona thrown without a prism or grating upon the plate. I say eight or ten times instead of five or six in order to make allowance for the light lost by reflection and transmission through the prism or at the grating, as the case may be.

Since the corona could be photographed in a few seconds, it was evident that such a band of light would probably leave its trace upon a photographic plate exposed during the whole of totality. This is what has been accomplished during the recent eclipse. But it is not photographing the continuous spectrum of the corona; as I see that many persons have assumed; the difference between this band of light and the continuous spectrum on which the bright lines of the corona were\* believed to be projected is so obvious, that I should not have entered into such an elementary explanation if I had not seen that more than one writer, in reviewing the results that have been obtained during the recent eclipse, assumes that the continuous spectrum of the corona has really been photographed, and seems to consider that it would have been easier to photograph the bright lines of the corona if they had been present than to photograph such a continuous spectrum.

In 1875, when preparations were being made to photograph the spectrum of the corona during a total eclipse which was about to take place in Siam, I wrote to the *Athenæum*, giving my reasons for believing that the attempt was not likely to be successful. Up to that time, and indeed up to the present time, no photograph of the corona has been obtained in a secondary focus. If a pure spectrum is required, a slit (which must be placed in the primary focus) must be made use of, and the photographic plate will consequently have to be placed in a secondary focus. Even supposing that the light of the corona were monochromatic, it is doubtful, when we take into account the loss of light at the prism or grating, and the decrease of light by reason of the magnified image, whether a photographic record could be obtained with an exposure during the whole period of totality. But it must be remembered that the light of the corona consists of several bright lines, and that many considerations† tend to show that the total light

\* I say "were" believed because several recent observations as well as general considerations derived from polariscope and other observations tend to prove that the background is only a faint ordinary solar spectrum containing the dark Fraunhofer lines.

† It is difficult in the short space of a note to do more than indicate these considerations. It is evident that the monochromatic part of the light of the corona, which is due to light emitted by incandescent gas, will be unpolarized, and polariscope observations show that a very large proportion of the light of the corona is polarized. If we rely on the polarimeter measures that have been made, and take into account the large angle which the sun must subtend to particles in the lower parts of the corona, it is evident that the unpolarized light can bear only a small proportion to the light dispersed by the polarizing small particles of the corona. Again, it seems probable that the monochromatic light of the corona is equally distributed through the rifts and brighter structure, and that it bears only a small proportion even to the light of the rifts. In proof of this the following observations may be quoted. Herschel and Tennant, observing in 1871, saw the bright 1474 line extending evenly across the field of view, when the slit of the spectroscope was placed across the edge of the great southern rift, so as partly to lie upon a very bright part of the corona, and partly extend into the area of the rift. Respighi, in the rings he observed in 1871, saw no indentations

of the bright lines forms only a small proportion of the total light of the corona.

With the slit placed in front of the object glass, it will be seen that the conditions would be still more unfavourable, and the spectrum, if any were obtained, would be an integration spectrum, in which the light of the prominences would be combined with that of the corona. Without a slit, the overlapping images greatly increase the difficulty; in order that a monochromatic image should show itself on the photographic plate, it would be necessary that its brightness should be sufficient to give rise to a difference of intensity of the photographic action that would make itself apparent upon a fogged background.

Many people are not aware that the eye can distinguish much fainter lights than can be photographed by any process at present in use. I have made prolonged attempts, making use of various precautions which it would take too much space to describe here, to photograph some of the brighter nebulae, but I have not at present succeeded in obtaining even a trace of the Dumb-bell nebula or the brighter parts of the nebula in Orion. I thought, however, that it might be possible to obtain a photographic register of the bright lines seen in the spectrum of the base of the chromosphere at the beginning and end of totality. During the eclipse of 1860, and in more recent eclipses, the prominences have impressed their images on photographic plates in a very short space of time, probably in some small fraction of a second. We know that in the prominences the intensity of the light usually increases very rapidly as you proceed downwards, and I consequently hoped that the bright lines in the spectrum of this part of the chromosphere might be sufficiently luminous to impress their images on the photographic plate in the two or three seconds during which the bright line layer at the base of the chromosphere, or Young's stratum, as it is frequently called, usually remains visible at the beginning and end of totality. For this purpose no slit would be necessary, as the bright line giving stratum at the centre of the disappearing crescent would itself form a line of light sufficiently narrow to give a very pure spectrum.

In order to make the experiment, and, at the same time, to determine how far the streak of light formed of the superposed images of the corona would leave its trace upon the photographic plate, I constructed a camera with a short focused, nearly achromatic lens, which had been lent me by Lord Lindsay. The lens has a focal length of only 8 inches and a diameter of 3½ inches. I was, however, obliged to reduce its aperture by making use of a diaphragm with an opening of rather more than two inches square. In front of the lens and diaphragm was placed a flint prism of 45°, lent me by Prof. Young. The whole was mounted on the top of my larger camera, and was driven by clockwork. Half a minute, or perhaps a little more, before the commencement of totality I placed myself beside the instrument with a direct vision prism held in front of the eye. The central parts of the crescent gave a bright band across the field, on either side of which were projecting spikes of light, corresponding to the monochromatic images of the cusps. The central band became rapidly narrower, and the monochromatic images of the cusps became more striking till the moment when I saw the central band, which had been reduced to a breadth of 3' or 4', commence to break up.

corresponding to the rifts. Carpmal in 1870 also seems to have placed the slit of his spectroscope across the lower part of one of the rifts, and he speaks of "the bright corona line" as "extended entirely across the field of view, but fainter towards the extremities." These observations, taken in conjunction with the fact that the light of the rifts shows very decided polarization, would tend to show that the monochromatic light bears only a small proportion to the light of the rifts, and a much smaller proportion to the light of the brighter parts of the corona. That the light of the continuous spectrum or field between the bright lines of the coronal spectrum is considerable cannot be doubted. Denza and Lorenzini in 1870, Fyres in 1871, and Stone in 1874, speak of the continuous spectrum as showing definite colours. Janssen in 1871, and Stone in 1874, and I understand other observers during the recent eclipse, speak with confidence of having observed dark lines in the continuous spectrum seen with a narrow slit.

\* The relative numbers corresponding to the development of Sun spots given by Wolf for the years 1869, 1870, and 1871 are, 1869, 78.6; 1870, 131.8; and 1871, 113.8. During the past year, as is well known, the Sun spots have been few and insignificant. As to the coronas of 1869 and 1870, Newcomb, Young, Harkness, and Langley all seem to have been of opinion that the corona of 1869 was brighter and more definite in outline, though, perhaps, less extensive than the corona of 1870. See the U.S. Coast Survey Reports for 1870, Appendix, No. 16, and the Washington Observations for 1869, Appendix, No. 1.

I then made the exposure, and left the camera so exposed during the whole of totality. It was covered up again just as light was commencing to appear on the other limb. The plate, which was one of "Mawson & Swan's extra sensitive dry plates," shows a diffused band corresponding to some of the superposed images of the lower and more brilliant part of the corona, but as far as I can see there are no bright lines from the centre of the disappearing crescent, and there are no traces of the chromospheric images of the cusps which were conspicuously visible at the time I made the exposure. Upon the same plate, a little below the superposed images of the corona, there is an over-exposed spectrum of the thin crescent of the reappearing sun—which printed itself after the camera had been shifted from its original position, at the moment that I covered the prism with its cap; for at the end of totality I had put an end to the exposure by covering the front of the prism with my hand, and afterwards in removing my hand and placing on the cap this exposure seems to have been made. Although this happened by accident, it turns out to be a very convenient scale of reference. At first it misled me and many of my friends, as we took it to correspond to the spectrum of Young's stratum seen at the east and west limbs. This mistake was rendered possible by the fact that the spectrum is much over exposed, and the central parts in the neighbourhood of the G line are rendered quite transparent by over exposure; but the explanation is now clear, and it serves to show that the superposed images of the corona which have imprinted themselves correspond to only about a fourth or a fifth part of the length of the part of the spectrum which can be photographed, and, consequently, that the combined light of the superposed images at either end of the spectrum was not sufficient to impress itself upon the photographic plate.

A. C. RANYARD.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THE forthcoming number of the *Mittheilungen*, the last to which Dr. Petermann's name is attached as editor, contains an elaborate paper, by Prof. H. Fritz, 'On Periodical Changes in the Length of Glaciers.' The author has the hardihood to assert that the frequency of sun spots exercises, indirectly, no doubt, a marked influence upon the growth or wasting away of glaciers. When sun spots are frequent the glaciers advance, when they approach a minimum they retire. The same number contains an account of Dr. Schnitzler's (Emin Effendi's) second visit to Mtessa's capital in December last, with a map; a paper on the Balkan Passes, by Herr Kanitz; and a notice on the political change in Turkey.

A remarkable incident connected with Mr. Johnson's surveys in 1865 to the north of Kashmir is recounted in the *Pioneer Mail*. During his journey to Khotan, Mr. Johnson had visited three peaks of the Kuen Lun Range, which, in default of local names, were marked on the maps of the Kashmir Survey as E 57, E 58, and E 61. From the synoptical volume recently published by the Indian Survey authorities it now appears (what had not been recorded in Mr. Johnson's Report at the time) that the height of the last-named peak which he successfully ascended was no less than 23,890 feet. There is no other instance that we have ever heard of a traveller reaching on foot so great a height above the level of the sea. Of course, the plains at the base of the peaks are themselves very lofty—probably nearly 18,000 feet—but even then the feat, for the difficulty and hardship involved in it, remains unequalled. Mr. Johnson has had considerable experience of mountaineering at these exceptional altitudes. He is now Governor of Ladakh.

The German-African Association has granted 1,500*l.* to Dr. Rohlf's and Dr. Stecker, who left Berlin a few days ago for Tripolis; 1,000*l.* to Major A. von Mechow, who proposes to explore the river Quango; and 500*l.* to the International Committee at Brussels. It will likewise support

Dr. Buchner, a naval surgeon, who intends to proceed to the Muato Yanvo's capital from the west coast.

#### SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Oct. 7.—Mr. R. P. Spice, President, in the chair.—The paper was read by Mr. G. G. André, 'On the Application of Electricity to the Ignition of Blasting Charges.'

#### MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tree. Horticultural, 11.—Fruit and Floral Committees.—3. Election of Fellows.

#### Science Gossip.

M. WÜRTZ is to deliver the Faraday Lecture in November.

UNDER Prof. Stuart's fostering care, mechanical science is obtaining a chance of introduction to university life at Cambridge. A workshop has been erected, and stocked with tools and machines, so that instruction can now be given in the use of tools in metal and wood, and also various instruments can be manufactured. Elementary practical classes will be started this term.

THE Royal Society have again announced to all whom it may concern that applications for grants from the Government Fund of 4,000*l.* for the promotion of scientific research, or from the Government grant of 1,000*l.*, must be forwarded to the secretaries of the Society before the last day of the present year. The meetings of the committees to consider the applications will be held in February next. It is to be hoped that the committee may at length see the advisability of making public a list of the applications received.

DR. VON ASTEN, of Pulkowa (whose premature death, on the 15th of August, we had the regret of recently announcing), published in May last his ephemeris of Eucke's Comet for this year, by which it appeared that it would pass through perihelion on the 26th of July. Before that time the comet was so near the Sun as to be only above the horizon in Europe whilst daylight or too strong twilight prevented its being visible. But after the perihelion passage it was detected in Australia on the 3rd of August, in the evening twilight, by Mr. John Tebbutt, at Windsor, New South Wales, who found it two nights afterwards to be pretty bright in his 4½ inch refractor, notwithstanding the moonlight, so that he hoped, as the comet's southern declination increased and the nights became longer, to obtain a good series of observations. It has been observed at every return since its periodicity was discovered by Eucke in 1819, who always called it Pons's Comet, because that indefatigable comet-observer, M. Pons, of Marseilles, first saw it at that return (on November 26th, 1818), supposing it to be a new discovery, though it had, in fact, been first discovered by M. Méchain at Paris, in the year 1786. The first predicted return to perihelion occurred in May, 1822; and the period being about 1,210 days, the next will be at the end of November, 1881.

MESSRS. HARDWICKE & BOGUE's announcements for the season include 'A Manual of the Infusoria,' by W. Saville Kent, F.L.S., &c.; 'The Herefordshire Pomona,' containing coloured figures and descriptions of the most esteemed kinds of apples and pears, edited by Dr. R. Hogg; 'The Sphagnaceæ, or Peat Mosses of Europe and North America,' by Dr. Braithwaite, F.L.S., &c.; and 'The Ferns of North America,' by Prof. D. C. Eaton, of Yale College, with coloured illustrations by J. H. Emerton.

THE same firm announce 'Health Primers,' edited by Dr. J. Langdon Down, Mr. Henry Power, M.B., Dr. J. Mortimer Granville, and John Tweedy. This series will consist of a number of shilling primers on subjects connected with the preservation of health. The following are in the press, and will be ready shortly: 'Premature Death: its Promotion and Prevention'; 'Alcohol: its Use and Abuse'; 'Personal Appearances in Health and Disease'

(illustrated); 'Exercise and Training' (illustrated); 'The House and its Surroundings'; 'The Skin and its Troubles' (illustrated); and 'Baths and Bathing.'

WE regret to have to announce the sudden death of Dr. Harkness, for many years Professor of Geology and Mineralogy, and for the last year of Natural History also, in Queen's College, Cork. He was actively engaged in the examinations of the Queen's University, which are held in Dublin at this season of the year, and was to outward appearance in vigorous health; but he was a victim to heart disease, and on Friday evening, while entering his bedroom, he fell senseless on the floor. Medical aid was immediately obtained, but life was found to be extinct. His loss will be deplored by a wide circle of friends, to whom his geniality and vivacity had endeared him.

THE first part of *Philosophical Transactions* for the present year, just published, contains Dr. Haughton's final discussion on the tides of the Arctic Seas, and a paper, by Sir George Airy, 'On the Tides at Malta.' Dr. Hopkinson contributes 'Electrostatic Capacity of Glass'; Mr. C. S. Tomes, 'On the Structure of Vascular Dentine'; Prof. Schorlemmer the second part of his researches 'On the Normal Paraffins'; and Mr. Crookes the fifth instalment 'On Repulsion resulting from Radiation.' 'Experimental Researches on the Electric Discharge with the Chloride of Silver Battery' is the subject of two papers by Mr. Warren De La Rue and Dr. Müller, illustrated by exquisitely engraved plates of spectra, and a Report by Mr. Lockyer and Dr. Schuster on the eclipse of the sun as observed at Siam in 1875 completes the part.

M. AUG. CHARPENTIER and Dr. Landolt have found that the sensations of light and colour are the result of two entirely distinct functions, and that the explanation of this is to be found in the chemical substance discovered by Boll and Rühne, which is discoloured by light, and which is renewed in darkness, as stated in the "Science Gossip" of last week.

A COMPLETE collection of the important papers written by Léon Foucault, with a preliminary notice of this eminent philosopher by M. Lissajous, has recently been published by Gauthier-Villars.

THE Government Astronomer, Mr. R. L. J. Ellery, F.R.S., has sent us the 'Monthly Record of Observations in Meteorology and Terrestrial Magnetism, taken at the Melbourne Observatory during the months of April and May.'

THE Report of 'Meteorological Observations made at the Adelaide Observatory during the Year 1878,' under the direction of Mr. Charles Todd, has appeared by authority of the Government of South Australia.

WE have received the 'Mineral Statistics' of Victoria for the year 1877. From this volume we learn that the estimated yield of gold in that year was 154,107 ounces less than the quantity obtained in 1876. The falling off in the yields of gold from alluvial deposit is remarkable; in 1868 1,087,502 ounces were obtained, but in 1877 only 289,744 ounces; but the results of quartz mining continue nearly the same, 597,416 ounces of gold being produced in 1868, and 519,899 ounces in 1877. Of coal they raised in this colony during last year 8,971 tons, valued at 13,505*l.*

WE have also three parts of the 'Statistical Register of Victoria' compiled from official records. These give returns of governors, ministers, parliaments, &c., since the inauguration of responsible governments, returns of population, and statements of finance.

THE Annual Report of the Department of Mines, New South Wales, for 1877, is on our table. This shows a falling off (as in Victoria) in the production of gold—the quantity of gold obtained last year being only 124,110 ounces, valued at 471,418*l.* Of coal and shale 1,463,023 tons were raised during the year. The increase in the production of tin is striking. In 1872, 849 tons of tin ore and 47 tons of ingots were pro-

duced, and in 1877, 824 tons of ore and 7,230 tons in ingots.

The Abbé Moigno publishes in *Les Mondes*, of September 26, a statement of the position of the discussion between MM. Tyndall and Pasteur, with especial reference to the views entertained by the late M. Claude Bernard, which is well deserving the attention of all who are interested in the germ theory.

MR. E. H. LIVEING, A.R.S.M., has just devised a simple and portable instrument by means of which the presence of gas in coal-mines can be detected, even when in the proportion of sixty of air to one of gas. As there is a very large margin between this and an explosive mixture, the invention may be regarded as a decided step towards the prevention of calamities such as those which of late have been so awfully frequent. The new method depends on the marked difference in the brilliancy of glow of red-hot platinum in air free from or contaminated with gas. Details of the apparatus are given in the last number of the *Transactions* of the North of England Mining Institute, issued on the 7th of this month (October).

### FINE ARTS

DORR'S GREAT WORKS. 'THE BRAZEN SERPENT,' 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM,' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter just completed, each 3½ by 2½ feet, with 'Dream of Philip's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Caliph,' &c., at the DORR GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

SIR FRANCIS GRANT, P.R.A.

It is our duty to record the death, on Saturday last, of the much respected President of the Royal Academy, one of the most fortunate and amiable of Academicians, certainly the most fortunate of the Presidents of their body. Of the claims of Reynolds, Wyatt, West, Lawrence, and Eastlake it is needless to speak, as these men laboured from their earliest youth in the paths of Art, and were especially gifted with the faculty of design. It will be remembered that, before his election to the official chieftainship, Shee was a scholar and successful writer, as well as a portrait painter of repute. Sir Francis never painted anything but portraits, and did not begin to study art at all until he was older than Lawrence was when he was elected A.R.A., and had already won a brilliant reputation; all the other P.R.A.s enjoyed European fame before they attained the chair which Sir Francis Grant adorned with the grace of a cultured mind, an eminently gentlemanly manner, a conciliatory temper, and aristocratic connexions. His personal characteristics were almost invariably reflected in his works. Few modern portrait painters could surpass Sir Francis in the high-born graces of his ladies' likenesses, the well-bred ease and elegance of his paintings of gentlemen. It must be added that a certain jauntiness, which is not in the highest taste, sometimes shone through the "educated" looks of his men's portraits, but even this element—it cannot be called a defect—reflected the idiosyncrasy of the painter, and was due to the pursuits of his early life.

Sir W. Scott in his 'Diary' recorded of Sir Francis, "In youth, that is, in extreme youth, he was passionately fond of fox-hunting and other sports; he had also a strong passion for painting and made a little collection. As he had sense enough to feel that a younger brother's portion would not last long under the expenses of a good stud and a rare collection of *chefs-d'œuvre*, he used to avow his intention to spend his patrimony, about 10,000*l.*, and then again make his fortune by the law. The first he soon accomplished. But the law is not a profession so easily acquired, nor did Frank's talent lie in that direction. His passion for painting turned out better. . . . I am no judge of painting," continued Sir Walter, "but I am conscious that Francis Grant possesses, with much cleverness, a sense of beauty derived from the best source,—that is, observation of really good society. . . . He has, I think, that degree of force of character

which will make him keep and enlarge any reputation which he may acquire. He has confidence, too, in his own powers—always requisite for a young gentleman trying things of this sort, whose aristocratic pretensions must be envied." Such was Scott's criticism of 1831, eleven years before Grant was elected an A.R.A., but not before he had distinguished himself in the line he chose, portraiture of hunting nobles and gentlemen; the criticism was prophetic, for ten years after it was written Grant painted an equestrian likeness of the Queen, and a still more acceptable work, the portrait of Lady Glenlyon. In 1852 he was elected R.A.; in 1865 he became President.

Apart from the above, the chief facts of the late gentleman's biography are, that he was born in 1804, a younger son of Mr. Francis Grant, of Kilgraston, Perthshire, one of his brothers being Sir Hope Grant, of Indian renown; he was educated for the bar, but never seriously devoted himself to legal studies, preferring that art which proved more propitious than the bar. He enjoyed no systematic artistic training, but such was his ability and tact that he made rapid progress in those studies which he undertook so late as his twenty-fourth year, i.e., in 1828, and so great was his success that in 1834 we find him contributing to the Royal Academy a numerous group of portraits of gentlemen hunters, styled 'Breakfast Scene at Melton,' and a portrait of a mounted officer. Portraits of ladies and gentlemen followed in almost uninterrupted succession.

His successor is to be elected before the end of the current month, and it is a practical satire on the Royal Academy that the contest is supposed to lie between Messrs. Leighton and Horsley!

### RESTORATION.

Athenæum Club, Pall Mall, S.W., Oct. 1, 1878.

I HAVE but just seen the *Athenæum* of September the 14th: it has some misstatements about me which perhaps you will kindly correct. I have neither restored nor ever even seen the churches at Worth and Langton Matravers with atrocities at which I am credited. I never "retool" old stone work, and never did so. I detest the practice as much as you can, and have protested against it strongly enough and often enough to convince people who know me that I should not be guilty of the practice myself.

Sir E. Beckett has not taken my place at York Minster, of which I am still in charge, and I hope likely to be. Last year I attended, as I usually did, the meeting of the Committee of the York Diocesan Church Building Society, and advised them as to the plans which came before them for grants. After I had left the room, the Archbishop, whose officer I had been for several years, seems to have moved a resolution abolishing my office without a word of notice to any one, after which he moved a vote of thanks to me for my services, regretting that the society could no longer pay my fee for examining plans. His Grace forgot to tell me that he was going to propose any such resolution. The society of course was not aware of this. Soon after he seems to have put Sir E. Beckett in the office which I held, upon the understanding, I presume, that his valuable services were to be given gratuitously. The Archbishop has, however, nothing to do with the Minster.

As to the restoration in progress at York, permit me to assure you that if I had not rebuilt the clerestory of the south transept it would have fallen, and that much of the external stone work was so effectually tooled and re-dressed many years ago that in parts hardly any untouched work of the original external stone work remained. By care and great pains we can find the original mouldings almost everywhere, and these I am substituting for the bad copies of an ignorant period. To those who do not value our matchless English mouldings such a work may be repugnant; to me I confess it is one of the very greatest interest; and just as I have had the satisfaction of restoring to view the interior of the exquisite south transept at York in its old state, so

I hope in due time to complete the work on which I am now engaged on the exterior. We have no finer or more classical work in England than the transepts of York Minster, and I am sure a little proud to have a hand in exposing them to view again in their old state, minus what was added and modern alterations.

G. E. SERRAT.

MYCENÆ.

St. Maur, Ventnor.

WILL you allow me a few words in reply to Mr. Hildebrand's letter?

I must admit that the weak point in my view is the want of proof of bronze swords being retained so late a period as the third or fourth century A.D.; but, on the other hand, in assigning these long swords to a prehistoric period "to the dawn of Greek civilization," there is the impossibility of proving that swords of such enormous length were ever used at that period, or at any other period in Greece.

The enormous length of the swords together with the wooden scabbards are marked northern features. No such swords or scabbards were known at any period in Greece. There is, however, plenty of evidence that bronze hilts and bronze chapes were used to a late period.

These long swords, as well as the gold objects found with them, may have been brought by the Gothic chiefs, who invaded Greece in the third century A.D., from the north as kinds of heirlooms, and then buried with them at Mycenæ. It would be only natural to suppose that these chiefs, though they had lived some time in the south of Europe, would have retained their national weapons and their own jewellery for some time after they had left their northern homes. It is a well-known fact that emigrants have kept up their national customs and retained their own peculiar implements in the midst of a people totally foreign to them.

Mr. Hildebrand remarks that there are analogies, but nothing more, but I maintain that the resemblance of the ornamentation of the gold ornaments at Mycenæ to that of the north of Europe is more than an analogy—in some cases it is almost a complete identity. The crosses with curved arms on Nos. 383, 385, 422, 507, 512 are identical with the cross on a bronze bowl found in Sweden. The triquetras on figures 382, 385, 409, 413, 428, 501, 511, are identical with that which occurs on a bronze Danish knife figured at p. 35 of Sir J. Lubbock's 'Prehistoric Times.' The gold cross, at p. 194 of Schliemann's work, is nearly identical with a cross of pure gold figured at p. 269 of Llewellynn Jewitt's 'Grave Mounds.' The spiral ornaments figured at p. 196 present identical forms with the spiral fibule from North Germany and Hungary. But what is most significant is the total absence of all ornament, such as the meander, the archaic cross (Schliemann's swastika), which would connect the gold objects found at Mycenæ with the early Greek style. The style of the ornamentation of the gold objects presents no similarity to that of the archaic pottery found at Mycenæ, which is doubtless genuine Greek and of an early period, and which would be presumed to be contemporaneous with the tombs. But most of the archaic pottery was found in the soil, not in the tombs, which proves that the pottery and the objects found in the tombs had no connexion. They evidently belong to widely different periods.

Mr. Hildebrand further remarks that the Swedish Runic stones show only incised outlines, and no figures in relief. But the sculptured stones of Scotland and of the Isle of Man, which from the Runic inscriptions on them are of undoubted Scandinavian origin, show figures in relief, and so may correspond with the sculptured slabs at Mycenæ. The pattern on the Mycenæ slab, figured at p. 91, is almost identical with that on a fibula given at p. 258 of Llewellynn Jewitt's 'Grave Mounds.'

The placing a layer of pebbles under the body may not exactly be "a Scandinavian custom," but it is one peculiar to the north of Europe. It is found in France and in England. As far as we

know, no such mode of burial has ever been found to occur in Southern Italy, in Greece proper, and in the Greek colonies in Asia Minor whenever Greek customs prevailed.

The turning the heads of the bodies to the east is also a northern mode of burial. It is totally foreign to Greek customs, as the Greeks for the most part burnt their bodies.

The description of the burial of the Anglo-Saxon chief Beowulf, as given in Wright's 'Celt, Roman, and Saxon,' might suit the interment found at Mycenæ.

The funeral pile was raised, and every preparation befitting the deeds of the chief was made. The pile was—

hung round with helmets,  
with boards of war (shields)  
and with bright byrnie (armour)  
as he had requested.  
then the heroes, weeping  
laid down in the midst  
the famous chieftains  
their dear lord.

The body of the hero having been consumed by the wood-fire, the people began to raise a mound.

They surrounded it with a wall  
in the most honourable manner  
that wise men  
could desire  
they put into the mound  
rings and bright gems  
all such ornaments  
as before from the board  
the fierce-minded men  
had taken ;  
they suffered the earth to hold  
the treasure of warriors  
gold on the earth  
where it yet remains  
as useless to men  
as it was of old.

Mr. Hildebrand also remarks that I have "not proved that Dr. Schliemann has found the remains of some Gothic princes"; he might also say that Dr. Schliemann has not proved that he has found the tomb of Agamemnon, or of any other Greek warrior.

There is, however, sufficient evidence brought forward, I think, to prove that the tombs are not those of men of "the mythic heroic age."

Why may not some Gothic chief or prince have been buried at Mycenæ with all his treasures and also with the loot of the different countries he passed through, as well as a Gothic king at Cosenza, in Italy, with all the spoils of Rome?

If Dr. Schliemann discovered a tomb in the bed of the Busento near Cosenza, with all its treasures, he would have much more reason to conclude it was the tomb of Alaric than he has now to imagine he has found the tomb of Agamemnon at Mycenæ.

All the facts I have pointed out above, combined with the historical evidence of a Gothic invasion of Greece in the third and fourth centuries A.D., appear to me to lead to a belief of the northern origin of the tombs and gold objects found at Mycenæ.

HODDER M. WESTROFF.

### Fine-Art Gossip.

THE exhibition of the Photographic Society in the gallery of the Society of Painters in Water Colours is open until the 12th of November.

MR. JOHN HENRY PARKER, C.B., is advised not to go to Rome again, but to remain quiet in Oxford and take repose; but he does not consider that repose means idleness, and has been employing his time in preparing new editions of such of his archaeological works as he finds to be wanted. Of his large work on the Archaeology of Rome, a second edition of the first part, relating to the primitive fortifications and buildings of the time of the kings, with the supplement incorporated, and many additional plates, is now ready; also of the part relating to the twelve Egyptian obelisks in Rome, with large additions, including translations of the hieroglyphic inscriptions by Dr. Birch, and Prof. Donaldson's 'Essay on Obelisks'; also translations of the chapters of Pliny and of Ammianus Marcellinus on the subject.

THE works for the erection of the so-called Cleopatra's Needle on the Northern Embankment

were finished on Monday last; since then the obelisk has stood amid the most incongruous surroundings with which it was possible to ally it, and in a place which is, aesthetically speaking, the least fit for it, possessing, however, the one merit that the relic was most readily brought there. Some time ago we published Dr. Birch's reading of the hieroglyphics, and a transcript from them. The monument is being moulded for the South Kensington Museum, a proceeding which promises to involve an extraordinary waste of money as well as of space.

REFERRING to our recent remarks on the limitations of admission to the British Museum, by means of which detachments of visitors are "personally conducted" through the establishment on Tuesdays and Fridays, when the general public are not admitted, we may mention that it is suggested, that needless obstacles exist even in the manner in which the restricted privileges are conferred. For example, a party of persons apply for admission, are courteously received, and handed over to an attendant, who is not always so much of a Crichton as to be competent to direct the observations of visitors to half a dozen departments. It is no reproach to these attendants that, except in regard to civility and patience, they are perfectly unfit guides. Nor is a guide required. The fact is that, all the attendants being in their places on the above-named as well as other days, there cannot be the slightest need to attach on Tuesdays and Fridays an additional attendant to each party of visitors. Yet this needless trouble is accepted, while the extra attendant is an impediment to those on whom he keeps watch. Why not dispense with his services in this respect, and let the groups of twenty or thereabouts take their own time in going through the Museum? Surely if the ordinary attendants suffice for the "public day," when thousands traverse the Museum, the same men ought to suffice for selected groups of a score or so. When strangers are admitted to the National Gallery on "students' days," they are not conducted through the rooms.

It would seem hardly necessary to repeat our frequent protests against the scheme, which finds favour with a certain proportion of the Corporation of London, for the widening of London Bridge. Nevertheless, as the recent interference of the Government alone prevented this scheme from being carried into effect, and the municipal authorities intend to urge its adoption in Parliament next session, it is needful to protest again in the strongest manner against such an operation. The latest objection to the plan which will destroy the beauty of one of our few modern architectural monuments appears in the fact that the traffic over the bridge is decreasing. It must decrease still more now that Waterloo Bridge is free of toll, and when the East London Railway is developed.

WE have received from Messrs. Goupil & Co. the twenty-first livraison of 'L'Art Chrétien' ('De Christelijke Kunst'), of which we have more than once noticed the value and merit as a collection of illustrated essays on typical works of Low Country Art, from the days of Van Eyck to those of F. Pourbeke. The text is in Dutch and French. The part before us deals with Goltzius and his school, and comprises an engraving of the 'Death of St. James,' by A. Van Montfoort. The work will be completed in twenty-four parts.

In reference to the statement, August 31st last, p. 282, that Foley's 'Youth at a Stream' had not been executed in the material for which it was designed, Mr. Gilbert Redgrave reminds us that the work was reproduced in marble, a commission from the Horticultural Society, and that the statue is now in the Conservatory at South Kensington. These facts had slipped the memory of our correspondent, but, though his illustration fails in this instance, his argument in regard to the decorations of St. Paul's is not affected by the error.

A CORRESPONDENT complains of our account of the restoration of the church at Worth (*Athen.* No. 2655, p. 345). He, however, writes about the church at Worth, near East Grinstead in

Sussex; we spoke of that at Worth Matravers, near Wareham in Dorsetshire. A letter from Mr. Street about the restoration of this and other churches appears in another column.

In the extract from Prof. John Marshall's 'Anatomy for Artists,' p. 439, col. 1, of last week's *Athenæum*, the paragraph has, by an error, been made to include part of our comment, as if the latter belonged to Prof. Marshall's text. The extract should have been shown to end at the word "opinion." What follows is ours.

ON Tuesday last a Fine-Art Exhibition was opened at Hull under the auspices of the Literary and Philosophical Institution of that town. Amongst other objects of interest in the exhibition are some relics and curiosities from Cyprus.

### MUSIO

M. GOUNOD'S 'POLYEUCTE.'

IN estimating the scientific and splendid score of the 'Polyeucte,' the special circumstances under which the work was commenced must be borne in mind. The composer was a refugee, sick at heart, suffering from ill health, and despairing of seeing again his own country. When he was again in his native city in 1874, and had still his despairing moments, he wrote thus despondingly:—

"Le public contemporain n'existe plus pour moi ; je n'ai plus rien à démêler avec lui ; je n'expose plus mes tableaux. 'Polyeucte' est une œuvre d'art apostolique ; c'est l'apologie et la glorification d'un martyr ; j'espère que Dieu me permettra de la terminer avant ma mort ; et si j'ai laissé dans cette œuvre une action de plus au service d'une cause que j'ai adorée, je ne demande pas à en voir le succès ; le bien fait par moi après moi me suffit."

Fortunately for his fame, advantageously for art, M. Gounod has been able to rally from his depression; but his words remain, and they supply the key to his artistic aspirations, to his melodious inspirations in the masterpiece he presented to the operatic world at the National Opera-house in Paris last Monday night, in the presence of such a vast audience of artists and amateurs as can be gathered only at such a remarkable representation. "Polyeucte" is not 'Faust' was an exclamation heard in the corridors and in the foyer amongst hearers who, before the curtain, had been applauding the opera vehemently. This kind of comparison is not just; as well might it be asserted that 'Semiramide' is not 'William Tell,' that 'Il Flauto Magico' is not 'Don Giovanni.' M. Gounod has rightly qualified 'Polyeucte,'—it is "une œuvre d'art apostolique," but this very designation raises the question whether the adoption of Corneille's tragedy for operatic purpose ought not to have assumed the form of an oratorio, for, apart from the spectacular and essentially secular pieces, arising out of the exigencies of grand opera as understood in France, the prevalent tone of the score is sacred—so decidedly so that the majority of the numbers might be transferred to a cathedral or a church for performance, and it remains to be seen how far opera audiences, whether French, English, German, or Italian, will accept the libretto concocted after Corneille—a long way after, no doubt,—by M. Jules Barbier and the late Michel Carré. Now in the classic tragedy, which Voltaire, Guizot, Boileau, Taschereau, Hal-lam, &c., have so highly praised, the action is confined, for Corneille is didactic and descriptive; he makes use of the confidants of Pauline, of Pauline, and of the intimate friend of Polyeucte to narrate events. MM. Barbier and Carré, on the contrary, realize these situations. Thus the baptism of Polyeucte after his conversion by Néarque actually takes place on the stage; the destruction of the Pagan idols by Polyeucte is effected after a long mythological ballet, in which Pan, Bellona, Venus, and Bacchus figure in what is called the Fête Pai-nue, that is, the introduction of a long ballet. Again, for Polyeucte there is a prison scene, and in the fifth and last act there is the Armenian

arena, not unlike the Colosseum at Rome. Poly-eucte in prison reads the incidents of the New Testament, describing the birth and the death of the Saviour. When Pauline turns Christian at last, and enters the circus with Poly-eucte to die with him, her exclamation in the tragedy at her conversion—

Je vois, je sais, je crois, je suis désabusée,  
Je suis chrétienne enfin,

is adapted by the librettists, but with the additional words, "et je meurs avec toi."

Further reference to the libretto is not necessary. About the music, in the absence of the published score, and having nothing to rely on but the impressions of a first hearing, it is impossible to do more than say a few words. There is no orthodox overture, it is a prolonged introduction, with a majestic opening, followed by a melodious cantabile and a massive chorale, with a *répise* of the *allegro*, the curtain rising to depict Pauline's chamber, her attendants grouped around her. Her dream, with harp accompaniment, is in a *scena* with a chorus; one passage by the latter, "O sombre vision, présage menaçant," by the contralto voices, is thrilling. Next comes the *duo* between Poly-eucte and Pauline, with a striking *ensemble*, depicting the fears of the wife. To this opening scene succeed an open square, bounded by the ramparts of the Armenian capital (Mélitène), and a triumphal arch. Here takes place the entrance of Sévère, with the Roman legions, amid the cheering of the Armenian populace, to a magnificent march, the trio of which is original and forcible. Sévère, who had when in Rome been the lover of Pauline, is introduced to her husband, Poly-eucte, by Félix, her father and the governor of the city. A quartet and chorus (Pauline, Poly-eucte, Félix, and Sévère) serve to indicate their varied emotions, and the act closes with this *finale*. The second act opens at the Temple of Vesta, with one of the most delicious of choral pieces, sung *piano* behind the scenes. Next comes a most impassioned duet between Pauline and Sévère, in which the Roman soldier nobly resolves to defend his successful rival, and Pauline is firm in her resolution to be faithful to Poly-eucte. The scene is changed from the Temple to a mountainous district near the Euphrates, it may be presumed, a wild locality, where the converted Armenians assemble for their Christian rites. Sextus, a tenor part (the character is not in the tragedy), sings in a boat a lovely air, in which the violoncello and harp predominate in the accompaniment. Then is introduced another new part, Siméon, a bass, the Christian priest who baptizes Poly-eucte. Here the composer revels in his ecclesiastical style: it is one of the most finely developed and most massive of concerted pieces, gradually attaining a most exciting climax. This second act will probably be regarded as the noblest portion of the score. In the third act, the pagan priest, Albin, and Félix resolve to carry out the sentences of death ordered by the Emperor Decius on all Christians; Poly-eucte, despite the counsels of Néarque, resolves to beard the Pagans during their rites, and at the Temple of Jupiter there is their procession to a second effective march, and the Fête Païenne takes place, Poly-eucte attacking the priests and breaking the statues of the gods; Néarque is at once killed by Albin with an axe, and Poly-eucte is made prisoner; and, in the fourth act, comes the most impassioned duet between him and Pauline, who in vain strives to persuade her husband to abandon his new religion. This fourth act is second only in impressiveness to the second one, and these two acts will be sufficient to render the work a permanent one in the *répertoire*; the fifth act is very short—the sole interest arising from the determination of Pauline to die with Poly-eucte; and with the fanatical populace in the galleries of the arena and at its gates the curtain falls.

The address of the Régisseur, who announced the names of authors, composers, and scenic artists, was waited for; for the poets there was solemn silence; for M. Gounod the cheering burst forth from all parts of the theatre; for the decorators the applause was great. Then came mixed

cries for Mlle. Krauss, the Pauline, and M. Lassalle, the Sévère, mixed with demands for the composer, who, however, did not answer to the call, the two vocalists showing themselves. To them alone of the singers can eulogium be extended; the German *prima donna* has not a sympathetic soprano voice—it is thin, wiry, and hard, but she is a sound musician, and has dramatic impulse and a good style. M. Lassalle has a fine baritone organ, and sings with expression, but his method lacks refinement and finish. The tenor, M. Salamon, as Poly-eucte, has nothing to back his pretensions, for his organ has no sympathetic *timbre*, and he is deficient in sensibility. The other artists knew their music, but added little to the strength of the cast. In fact 'Poly-eucte,' despite an accurate *ensemble* chorally and instrumentally, has yet to be heard, with superior artists in the principal parts. Than the *mise en scène*, nothing more rich, gorgeous, and picturesque has ever been witnessed on the lyric stage. The processions in the first and third acts were magnificent for the costumes and for the marching. A new *danseuse*, as Vénus, took the house by storm, for her grace and agility were equally remarkable. M. Méranthe has the credit of this attractive *divertissement*, the music for which, illustrative of the four heathen deities, was quaint and charming; for the ball-room these numbers will be in request.

#### CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

HOWEVER high a position Herr Johannes Brahms may eventually hold in the art world, it is not likely he will be accepted as the successor of Beethoven in the two Symphonies, No. 1 in c minor and No. 2 in d major, be carefully considered. It is necessary to start with this statement after an examination of the score of No. 2, played for the first time in this country at the opening Crystal Palace Concert on the 5th inst., inasmuch as assurances have been hazarded that No. 1 by Brahms is No. 10 in sequential order to the inspired nine symphonies of Beethoven, and that, *pari passu*, No. 2 must be regarded as No. 11. Now the similarity of style between Herr Brahms and Beethoven may at once be admitted; the former is essentially Beethovenian, and in this respect Herr Brahms bears some resemblance to his illustrious predecessor, who in his Nos. 1 and 2 of the symphonic order was certainly Mozartian and Haydnish. In the c minor it seemed as if the composer had taken the first movement of Beethoven's No. 9 as his starting point. Now in No. 2 there is infinitely less mysticism—the themes are more tuneful, the treatment is more free, easy, and clear. There are, it is true, changes of key that are tantalizing in their frequency—there are progressions which border on eccentricity, and there are contrasts which at times are startling; but, admitting the technical skill shown and the masterly development of varied themes, hearers naturally ask at the conclusion of the movements, What remains in the memory? In the symphonies of Haydn, of Mozart, of Beethoven, of Mendelssohn, and even of Spohr, the melodious strains leave a permanent impression. There are the orthodox four movements, No. 1, *allegro non troppo* in d, three-four time, with a second *motif* in f sharp minor; No. 2, *adagio non troppo* in b, common time, trite and triste; No. 3, *allegretto grazioso* in g, three-four time, vivacious and piquant, that evidently pleased, and the *finale*, *allegro con spirito*. Justice was done to the symphony by the band. The other pieces in the scheme were Gluck's overture, 'Iphigenia in Aulide,' with Herr Wagner's coda, *vice* that by Mozart, W. S. Bennett's overture, 'The Wood Nymphs,' the Emperor Pianoforte Concerto in e flat of Beethoven, and Dr. Liszt's Hungarian Fantasia, executed artistically by M. Louis Brassin, of Brussels. Miss Thursby was the vocalist.

#### M. RIVIERE'S CONCERTS.

A NEW series of Promenade Concerts, commenced at Covent Garden last Saturday night, is recommended in the Prospectus as free from the affectation of classicality, and it is added

that the music selected is essentially popular, that is, it may be listened to without any necessity for the promenaders to look solemnly appreciative of conceptions beyond their comprehension. The conductor is firm, exact, and vigorous. He has the players well in hand, and they observe his beat with alacrity and energy; the vocalists were Madame Lemmens, Madame Ziméri, Madame Pratt, Miss G. Warwick, Messrs. Pearson (tenor) and Clifford (baritone). The solo instrumentalists were Heer van Biene, violoncello, and Miss Albert, pianist. The works were by Rossini, Auber, Mendelssohn, M. Lecocq, Dr. Liszt, Gottschalk, Rivière, &c.

#### Musical Gossip.

THE novelties during the Italian opera season at Her Majesty's Theatre at reduced prices, the opening representation being next Saturday (Oct. 19th), appear to be confined to three revivals, namely, Rossini's 'Semiramide,' M. Gounod's 'Mireille,' with Mlle. Marimon, and Signor Verdi's revised 'Forza del Destino,' with Mesdames Crosmont and Trebelli. A new tenor, M. Candidus, will appear as Florestan in 'Fidelio,' and another new tenor, Signor Leli, as Fernando ('Favorita'). Madame Trebelli is to take the place of Mlle. Minnie Hauk as Carmen. The singers will include, besides the above-named artists, Madame Pappenheim, Mlle. Valleria, Mlle. Ambré, Mlle. Colini, Miss Cummings (Mrs. Williams), Mlle. Perdi (Miss Purdy), Madame Imogene (Mrs. F. Marshall), Mlle. Bauermeister, Signori Giliandi, Carrion, Rinaldini, Rancio, and Mr. Thomas; Signori Mendioroz, Rota, Roveri, Fallar, Zoboli, and Herr Behrens. Signori Li Calci and Orsini are to be alternate conductors; Mr. Smythson chorus-master. The director will be Mr. Armit (Mr. Mapleson's son-in-law).

THE Norwich Musical Festival will take place next week, under the direction of Sir Julius Benedict. The principal vocalists will be Madame Albani (Mrs. Ernest Gye), Miss C. Penna, Miss A. Williams, Madame A. Sterling, Madame Trebelli, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Minns, Mr. Shakespeare, Mr. Hilton, and Mr. Santley. The oratorios and other sacred works will be Handel's 'Messiah,' Mendelssohn's 'Elijah,' Prof. Macfarren's 'Joseph,' Haydn's 'Seasons' (the Spring part), 'Acis and Galatea' of Handel, and Mozart's First Mass in c. The choralists will number 273 voices and the band 70 instrumentalists.

TEN concerts, the first on the 7th of November, will be given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society under the direction of Mr. Barnby. The selection of works contains no novelty; the sacred works being confined to the 'Messiah,' 'Judas Maccabæus,' and 'Israel in Egypt,' Mendelssohn's 'Elijah,' 'St. Paul,' and 'Lobgesang,' Haydn's 'Creation,' and Rossini's 'Stabat Mater.'

THE programme of the Glasgow Choral Union announces choral concerts for the 12th and 28th November, the 12th December, and 1st January next. The works performed will include Signor Randegger's cantata, 'Fridolin' (to be conducted by the composer); Mendelssohn's 'Hear my Prayer'; Mr. H. A. Lambeth's Psalm, 'By the Waters of Babylon'; Beethoven's Choral Fantasia; Beethoven's 'Engedi'; and Handel's 'Judas Maccabæus' and 'Messiah.' The orchestral concerts will take place on Tuesday evenings, 19th and 26th November, 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th December. Herr Julius Tausch, of Düsseldorf, will conduct. The Edinburgh Choral Union announces three choral concerts, conducted by Mr. Adam Hamilton, and six orchestral concerts, conducted by Herr Tausch.

MR. SEDLEY TAYLOR will continue his efforts to promote the scientific study of music at Cambridge this term by lecturing on the Acoustics of Music at the Cavendish Laboratory.

DEATH has broken up the charming circle which for so long assembled at the Château de la Muette (Passy, Paris). The decease of the

widow of Rossini has been followed by that of the widow of the famous Spontini, who has left two masterly operas in 'La Vestale' and 'Fernand Cortez.' Madame Veuve Spontini, Comtesse de Sant' Andrea (née Marie Celeste Erard), died at Madame Erard's Château on the 30th ult., in her eighty-eighth year. At the service and interment on the 3rd inst. the notabilities of Paris assembled in large numbers. Madame Spontini exercised a powerful influence both in Berlin (where her husband was Court Musical Director for twenty-two years) and at Paris, where his works were produced. With great personal attractions, Madame Spontini combined tact and taste, and, to tell the truth, the composer often needed her influence to free him from difficulties arising from his excitable temperament.

OWING to delays in the scenic preparations for 'Les Amants de Vérone,' the first representation at the Salle Ventadour in Paris was postponed until Thursday (Oct. 10th). The general full rehearsal, with dresses, &c., took place on Tuesday, before a large audience. Mdlle. Heilbron, who is to be Juliet, was unable to rehearse; her substitute was a Mdlle. Rey, a *débutante*, who studied the part in two days. Our notice of the new work will appear in next week's issue.

At the International Matinée at the Trocadéro Palace (Paris Exhibition) on the 3rd inst., Madame Carlotta Patti, Signor Tamberlik, and M. Bonnéhée were the solo singers; Signor and Madame Jœll, and M. Bosoni, pianists; Mdlle. Taine, harmonium; M. Rémenyi, violin; and M. Guilmant, organist. There were dramatic scenes in costumes by Madame Karoly and M. Taillade (the murder of Duncan, from 'Macbeth'); 'L'Assemblée des Femmes,' from Aristophanes, by Mdlle. Dumas and others in Greek dresses; a recitation from Dante's 'Inferno' (in French), by M. Mounet-Sully; a recitation in Italian ('Christopher Columbus'), by Signor Ernesto Rossi; and a scene from Molière's 'Mariage Forcé,' by MM. Coquelin and Coquelin, jun. The Italian tragedian came off with honours. M. Henri de la Pommeraye delivered an oration urging the formation of a theatre to produce the masterpieces by authors of all countries in French.

THE revival of M. Offenbach's 'Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein' at the Bouffes Parisiens last Saturday night (Oct. 5th) was a great success. Mdlle. Schneider, who created the title-part in 1867, was present, applauding the new Grande Duchesse, Mdlle. Paola Marié, who achieved a vocal triumph.

M. PASDELOUP commenced his classical orchestral concerts at the Paris Cirque d'Hiver on the 10th, but his regular season will begin only on the 20th inst. The Châtelet concerts, M. Colonne conductor, begin on the 27th inst.

THE French basso Junca, who occupied a high position in Italy and America as well as in his own country, has died in his sixtieth year. It may be remembered that he played Falstaff at Her Majesty's Theatre in Nicolai's 'Merry Wives of Windsor' some years since.

HERR RUDOLF WALDMAN was not only composer and librettist of a three-act comic opera, called 'Señora Mata-Florida; or, the Joyous Monks of Saint Just,' produced in Berlin on the 26th ult., at the Woltersdorff Theatre, but he also enacted the principal part.

THE inauguration of the Conservatorium of Music, founded by Dr. Hoch in Frankfort, took place on the 25th ult. Herr Raff is the principal. A trio by Beethoven was executed by Herr J. Rubinstein (piano), Herr Heermann (violin), and Herr Cosman (violin-cello). Herren Fälden and Urspruch played the Sonata for Two Pianofortes by Mozart. Herr Jules Stockhausen sang Lieder by Schubert. The speeches were delivered by the Burgomaster and Dr. Hoch.

M. JULES MASSENET, the composer of 'Le Roi de Lahore,' an opera now going the round of the theatres in Italy, has been appointed, by the Minister of Fine Arts, Professor of Composition at the Paris Conservatoire, as the successor to M. Bazin.

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

GAITEY.—'The Lady of Lyons Married and Settled.' By Hermann C. Merivale.  
STRAND.—Revival of 'Our Club,' by F. C. Burnand; and 'Nemesis,' by H. Farnie.  
HAYMARKET.—Revival of 'The Rivals.'

THE ordinary rules of dramatic composition are not to be dispensed with in the case of burlesque. Slight as are the claims to consideration of a dramatic parody, or, at least, of such dramatic parodies as we see, to obtain a success with one requires the same kind of workmanship that is accorded a comedy. Unless an author can realize in his mind with absolute fidelity a series of pictured actions he will never bring them before the public, and, unless he is a master of stage perspective, he will not succeed on the strength of being a humourist. We pardon more readily, indeed, in a comedy some sins of omission than in a burlesque. On the strength of poetic grace, elegant fancy, or the like, pieces of various kinds, from the 'Beaux Messieurs de Bois-doré' or 'L'Ami Fritz' downward, have won acceptance, although the effects seem too delicate or too slight for the stage. In a burlesque, on the contrary, every canon of dramatic effect must be observed. This truth has apparently been ignored by Mr. Hermann Merivale, whose new burlesque of the 'Lady of Lyons' has failed to win the recognition to which, from the standpoint of humour, it is entitled. It is wanting in breadth and in vigour. The story is ingenious, being nothing less than an illustration of the evils that result from unequal marriages, which is afforded by the wedded life of Claude Melnotte and Pauline Deschappelles. Its full significance is not, however, very easy to grasp by an audience, and the humorous aspects of the parody do not come home to the majority of playgoers. What is happiest in the piece, moreover, consists in songs and rhymed couplets which cannot be distinctly heard, and so fail in their effect. The 'Lady of Lyons Married and Settled' accordingly proved dull. It would probably repay perusal. One or two very happy lines are met with, many portions are ingenious and playful, and there is one sentence that is really witty, in which the hero or the heroine—we forget which—describes a villa on the bank of the Thames, where "during the summer the river is at the bottom of the lawn, and during the winter the lawn is at the bottom of the river." The acting of this piece in one or two principal characters was admirable. Miss Farren has so constantly hidden her light under a bushel we were beginning to doubt its brightness. By constantly practising the known devices of burlesque, she was arriving at a point at which her nature seemed "subdued to what it works in, like the dyer's hand." For once, however, she has shown of what she is capable. Her performance of Pauline was a perfect piece of burlesque acting. It had, moreover, that crowning grace which is the vindication of burlesque, a grace without which the whole is as the "cracking of thorns under a pot"—that it preserved at least in suggestion what is ideal and poetical in the original. It is the special merit of a few French pieces that while they parody scenes and situations they allow the intrinsic value of the original

to show through. This effect was admirably realized in the present instance, and Miss Farren's mock heroics had a real poetry and beauty. She was ably assisted by Mr. Royce and Mr. Terry, and the acting, though it could not establish the piece, saved it from collapse.

A burlesque of a quite different kind has been revived at the Strand in the 'Nemesis' of Mr. Farnie. The success of this piece with the public is attributable to one clever scene in which M. Marius is exceedingly droll. Considered as art, 'Nemesis' is wholly inferior to the parody of the 'Lady of Lyons.' It has, however, action, and it is written by one with a full knowledge of stage exigencies. Mr. Burnand's adaptation, 'Our Club,' the run of which was interrupted by the close of the late season, has also been given.

At the Haymarket, meanwhile, whence Mr. Byron's 'Conscience Money' has been withdrawn, 'The Rivals' of Sheridan has once more been revived. Nothing in the representation calls for special notice. Mr. John S. Clarke's Bob Acres is well known. It abounds in startling contrasts, and is profoundly diverting, without realizing any accepted view of the character. Mr. Howes's Sir Anthony is a respectable performance, and Mr. Terris's Capt. Absolute seems likely to become so. Miss Carlotta Addison is a good Julia, Mr. Kelly an excellent Faulkland, and Miss Pateman a wholly unsatisfactory Lydia Languish. In the whole range of comedy there is probably no part so far outside Miss Pateman's powers as that she has now undertaken.

### Dramatic Gossip.

ON Saturday next, at a morning performance, 'Little Cricket,' Mr. Mortimer's version of 'La Petite Fadette,' will be given at the Haymarket, with Miss Lydia Cowell in the rôle of Fraçoise.

ONE journal after another continues to proclaim the forthcoming appearance in London of the Comédie Française. Such statements are, as we have before said, premature. Negotiations are still pending, but no arrangements are made. If the proposed visit is paid it will be in force, with the entire staff of the theatre, with scenery and other requisites, and with what may almost be called the entire *répertoire* of the theatre, since it consists of all the plays the company can perform at short notice. 'Hernani,' 'L'Ami Fritz,' and 'Les Fourchambault,' with those plays of M. Dumas fils which can pass the now formidable ordeal of a squeamish censure, head the modern *répertoire*. The classic *répertoire* includes three or four plays of Racine, as many of Corneille, and a dozen or more of Molière. In case the arrangements still in progress lead to satisfactory results, morning performances of classical comedy will be given twice in each week.

'LA DAME AUX CAMELIAS' of M. Dumas fils has been revived at the Gymnase. Madame Tessandier made a moderately successful *début* as Marguerite Gautier, and M. Guiry obtained thoroughly favourable recognition on his first appearance as Armand.

'LE VIEUX CAPORAL' of MM. d'Ennery and Dumanoir, first written for Frédéric Lemaitre has been revived at the Théâtre de Cluny, with M. Jenneval as the Caporal. Less successful than our Prince of Wales's Theatre, with which it was natural once to compare it, the Théâtre de Cluny, after its brief spell of popularity, has definitely subsided into the position it originally held of a *théâtre du faubourg*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—D. P.—G. R.—S.—J. P.—F. R.—R. J. Y.—received.

M.—We cannot insert such questions.

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